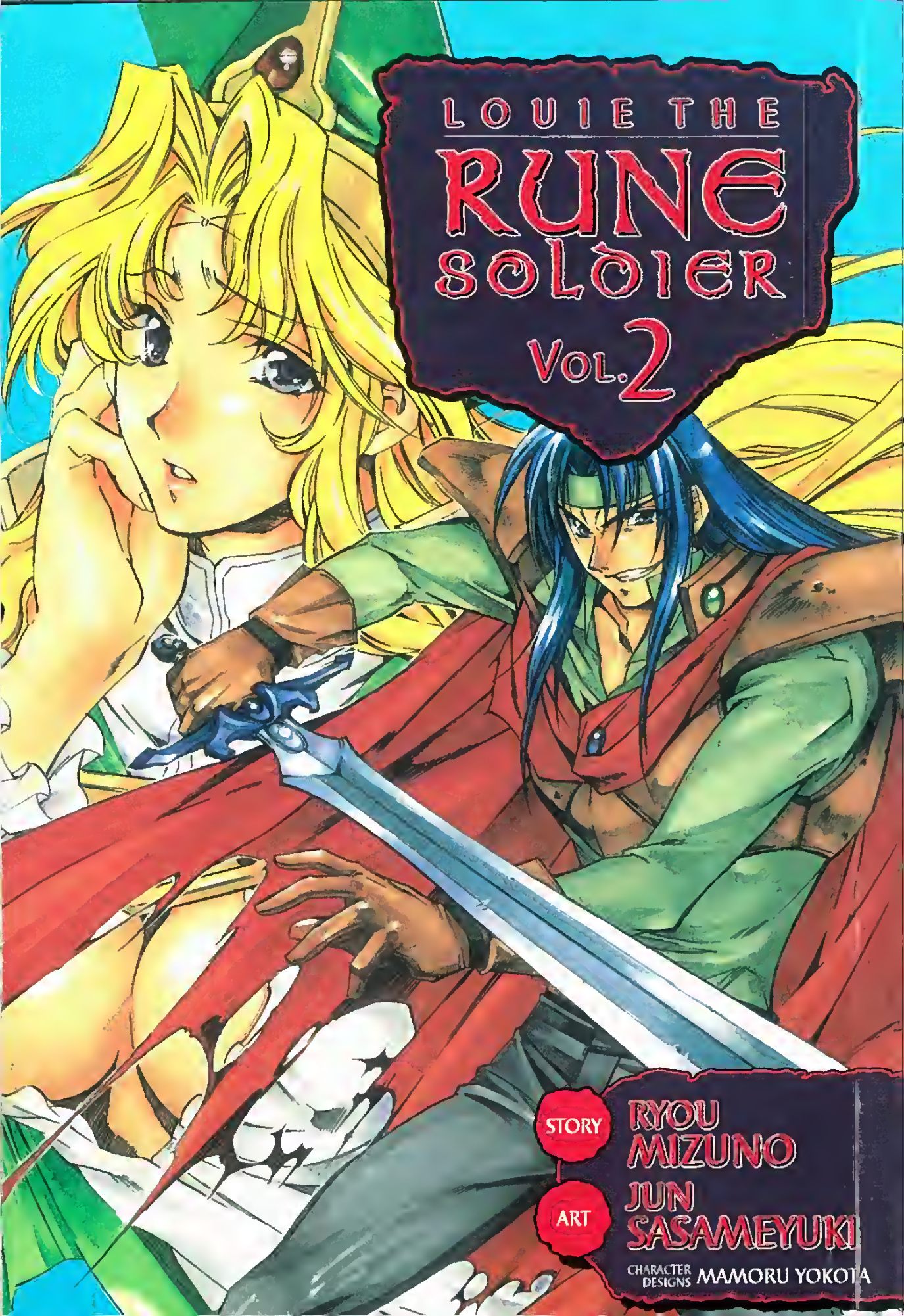
LOUIE THE
RUNE SOLDIER
VOL. 2
STORY
RYOU MIZUNO
ART
JUN SASAMEYUKI
CHARACTER DESIGNS MAMORU YOKOTA

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CHARACTER DESIGNS MAMORU YOKOTA
LOUIE THE
RUNE SOLDIER
VOL.2

# ELVES OF THE FOREST

WHERE DEMONS DWELL AND HELLHOUNDS HOWL... ALSO KNOWN AS THE "FOREST OF BLOOD AND GUTS."
THE FOREST OF TARTIOUS...
HEY...
THERE IT IS! RIGHT THERE!
THAT LOOKS LIKE JUST THE ANCIENT TREE WE NEED FOR MY NEW MAGE STAFF!

# LOUIE the RUNE SOLDIER

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STORY RYOU MIZUNO • ART JUN SASAMEYUKI

CHARACTER DESIGNS MAMORU YOKOTA

P. 3-6 CG WORK MITSURU YAMAZAKI

ADVENTURE 6
ELVES OF THE FOREST

WHATEVER IT WAS, IT SCREWED UP MY LANDING.
WHAT THE HELL?!
PWHAH!
RUSTLE
OH, PUT A LID ON IT! SOMETHING JUST HAPPENED-
REALLY CLOSE BY!
PAT
PAT
YEAH, WELL, JUST A SMATTERING, I GUESS.
AMAZING!
すげーじゃん!!
FWIP
YOU MEAN YOU KNOW ELVISH?!
THE SCREAM WAS IN ELVISH.
ELVES DO LIVE AROUND HERE, YOU KNOW.

CHOK
HEEEEEAH
CAW
CAW
HEEYA!
TIME TO GET ME A NEW MAGE STAFF!
KR-THWUMP
WHA...
WHAT WAS THAT? DID SOMEONE SCREAM?!

WELL, WHY DON'T YOU TRY SAYING SOMETHING TO THEM?
YEAH. THAT WAY, WE MIGHT AVOID ANY UNNECESSARY FIGHTING.
OOH, WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID, "I DON'T SPEAK ELVISH," IN ELVISH!
GOOD IDEA.
SMACK
OOOO

OH. I SEE.
GLIDE
しゅた.
NOW THEN, MY DEAR. I'M SORRY, BUT WE HAD TO CUT THAT BRANCH...
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? WE ONLY NEED ONE OR TWO BRANCHES.
IT'S NOT LIKE THE TREE'S GONNA DIE.
YOU'RE SCARING HER!
HEY!!
IF YOU KNEW HOW TO SPEAK COMMON, WHY THE HECK DIDN'T YOU COME OUT SOONER?!
EEP

IS CALLED THE "TREE OF THE ANCIENTS."
OUR FOREBEARS SLEEP BENEATH IT...
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S A GRAVE.
THIS VENER-ABLE OAK...

OH, MAN! IT'S JUST A NORMAL ELF!
PHEW

はぁ…HUH?
AND WHAT A BABE!

YOU...
CUT THAT BRANCH, DIDN'T YOU?

REALLY?!
THWACK
WHAT'S YER PROBLEM?!
MORON.

DOESN'T THIS SOUND THE LEAST BIT FISHY TO YOU?!
DO YOU REALLY THINK AN ELF WOULD JUST INVITE HUMANS TO HER VILLAGE LIKE THAT?

SHE'S UP TO SOMETHING! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
TUG
SHE'S NOT UP TO ANYTHING!
NO WAY!

SPRK
HERE, YOU CAN HAVE IT BACK.
I SURE DID.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DID IT.
しらない
AIN'T MY FAULT.
WE'LL JUST GO FIND ANOTHER TREE.
WELL, I SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING BEFORE YOU CUT THAT BRANCH.
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW... SORRY ABOUT THAT.

I'M WORRIED YOU MIGHT END UP CUTTING ANOTHER OF THE SACRED TREES.
YOU SHOULD COME TO MY VILLAGE. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SPARE SOME.
IF YOU NEED WOOD FROM AN ANCIENT OAK...
NO, WAIT!
SEE YA.

MAY I ASK YOUR NAME, MY DEAR?
IT'S SELECIA.
I'M LOUIE!
AND THESE OTHER THREE ARE MY SERVANTS!
HEH
HEY!!
CLASP
COME, SELECIA!
LET US BE OFF TO YOUR VILLAGE!
はぁ…♪
SIGH...

I AM RATHER LEARNED IN THESE THINGS.
YOU KNOW. AND I CAN TELL YOU A THING OR TWO ABOUT ELVES.
WE NEEDN'T WORRY— SHE IS NOT A DARK ELF, AND IS THEREFORE NOT EVIL.
I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S OKAY!
BUT I'VE HEARD THAT EVEN AMONG "GOOD" ELVES, THERE ARE THOSE WHO'RE NOT SO GOOD.
BESIDES, SUCH A LOVELY YOUNG ELF...
COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE EVIL!

BUT IF THOSE ELF GUARDS CHASE US DOWN, WE'D BE AS GOOD AS DEAD.
WELL, AT LEAST WE HAVE OUR PACKS.
BUT THEY TOOK OUR WEAPONS
WE COULD STILL ESCAPE, MAYBE...
THEY SURE CONSIDER IT A CRIME IF YOU CUT ONE OF THEIR SACRED TREES, HUH?
GOB GOB
WHAT WILL BECOME OF US?
WELL, THEY WON'T KILL US... HOPEFULLY.
HM. ONE THING'S FOR SURE:

YEP...
SLUMP
I KNEW IT'D TURN OUT LIKE THIS.
JUST AS I EXPECTED. WE'RE CAUGHT.

WHAT THE HELL?!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, DECEIVING US LIKE THAT?!
I'M ACTUALLY KIND OF GLAD TO HEAR YOU SPEAK THAT WAY.
HAVE THEY DECIDED WHAT TO DO WITH US YET?
NO, NOT YET.
NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER HAPPENED BEFORE.
BUT THAT WAS THE TREE OF THE ANCIENTS THAT YOU CUT. IF I'D JUST LOOKED THE OTHER WAY, I WOULD HAVE BEEN HELD RESPONSIBLE.
THERE WAS NO OTHER CHOICE.
AND I LIED TO HIM. I FEEL TERRIBLE...
THIS MAN TRUSTED ME...

I JUST DON'T HAVE GOOD LUCK WITH WOMEN.
IF YOU'RE GOING ON AN ADVENTURE, DON'T FORGET TO BRING ME BACK A LITTLE SOMETHING.
HOW COULD SUCH A BABE OF AN ELF DECEIVE ME?
OH, BROTHER
CLACK
UM...

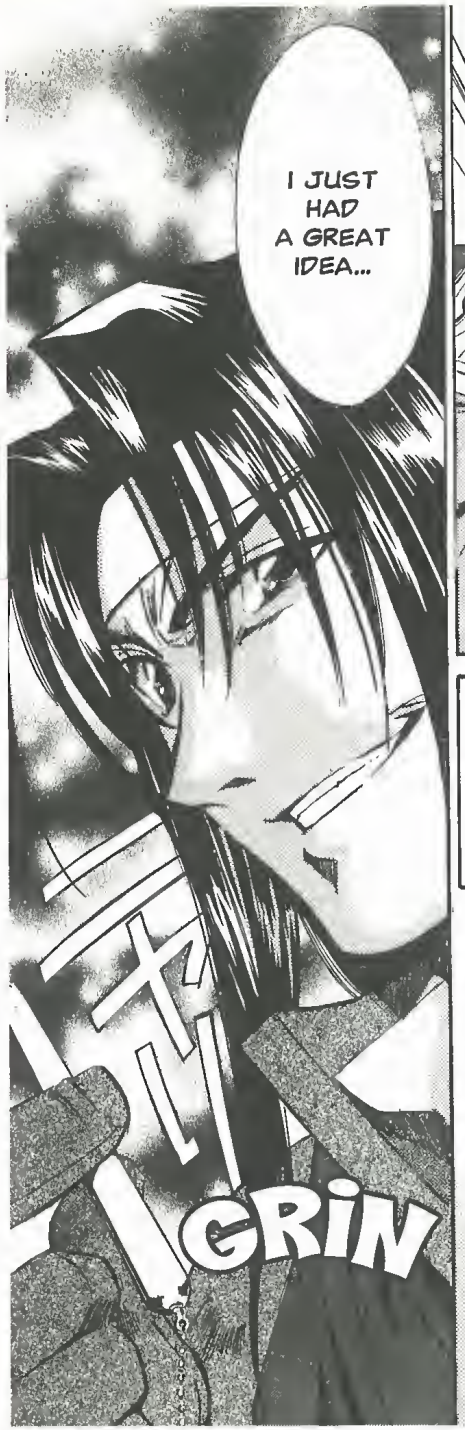
OH, I'M SO HAPPY I COULD CRY.
HEH
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE VERDICT WILL BE,
BUT I'LL DO WHAT I CAN IN YOUR DEFENSE.
PLEASE, JUST BE PATIENT FOR NOW.
CREAK
BUT MANY OF THE VILLAGE ELDERS FEEL THAT HUMANS ARE FOOLS, LOWER EVEN THAN THE BEASTS AND SPIRITS OF THIS FOREST.
I BELIEVE YOU HUMANS POSSESS GREATER WISDOM THAN MERE ANIMALS...
BUT I WANT TO HELP YOU, IF I CAN.
YOUR SITUATION IS VERY GRAVE...

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
STILL, I'M HAPPY TO HAVE FOUND A HUMAN WHO THINKS HIGHLY OF OUR PEOPLE.
BW-THUMP
WELL, LUCKILY, YOU FOUND A GUY WHO COULD BE EASILY FOOLED.
A REAL IDIOT.
♪BWA-BWA-BWA-BWAAAAA♪

I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.
YOU'D BE AN IDIOT NOT TO. NOT THAT YOU'RE NOT AN IDIOT ANYHOW...
FWP
I'M SORRY, BUT I MAY HAVE TO CHANGE MY OPINION ABOUT ELVES.

I WISH I COULD PROVE THAT YOU AREN'T LIKE THOSE CREATURES...
WELL, I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
K-CHK
SHE WANTS TO HELP US, MY ASS!
SHIT!
THWACK
THE ELVES HAVE FOUGHT AGAINST THE BEASTS AND SPIRITS OF THIS FOREST SINCE ANCIENT TIMES.
WHAT'S THE DEAL? ARE THE ELVES HAVING TROUBLE WITH MONSTERS OR SOMETHING?
THAT'S WHY THIS PLACE IS CALLED THE "FOREST OF BLOOD AND GUTS."
I SEE.
WAIT A SEC... SPIRITS?
SEEMS LIKE I'VE HEARD THAT WORD SOMEWHERE RECENTLY...
?
SO SHE WANTS TO PROVE WE'RE NOT LIKE THOSE "BEASTS AND SPIRITS," HUH?
THAT'S IT!
THIS WHISTLE IS CALLED THE "SPIRIT SUMMONER."
IT SUMMONS SPIRITS!
IT SUMMONS SPIRITS!!

HUH?
SSSSSNF
RUSTLE
HM?


I JUST HAD A GREAT IDEA...
GRIN

SHUFFLE
RUSTLE
NOISY BASTARD
WHAT'S HE DIGGING AROUND FOR?

THIS!

WOMEN AND CHILDREN, GET INTO THE HOUSES!
MEN, GET YOUR WEAPONS AND MEET THE ENEMY!
A SWARM OF EVIL CREATURES IS INVADING OUR VILLAGE?
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON OUT HERE?
IT CAN'T BE!

YEEEARGH!

OUR VILLAGE... IT'S GOING TO BE...

NO, IT CAN'T BE!

LOOK!
IT'S...

WH... WHAT THE-?!

MONSTERS!!

I'LL GET YOUR VILLAGE OUT OF THIS!
COME ON, YOU FREAKS! SHOW ME WHAT YA GOT!
THAT MAN...
CRACK!
YEARGH!

BA-CRACK!!
HEEERE'S LOUIE!!

GRARRR
GRAH-RAARR
HE'S AT IT AGAIN...
HE'LL TAKE DOWN EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM. WITH HIS BARE HANDS.
WE'VE SEEN A SPECTACLE LIKE THIS BEFORE, HAVEN'T WE?
RAUGHH
A HERO HAS APPEARED IN OUR MIDST!
A HERO!

A HERO HAS APPEARED!
CHIRP
CHIRP

I HOPE WE MEET AGAIN!
OH, LOUIE!
キメッ! SCORE!
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS.
HEH
NOW WE'RE EVEN.
I OWED YOU ONE FOR TRICKING ME.

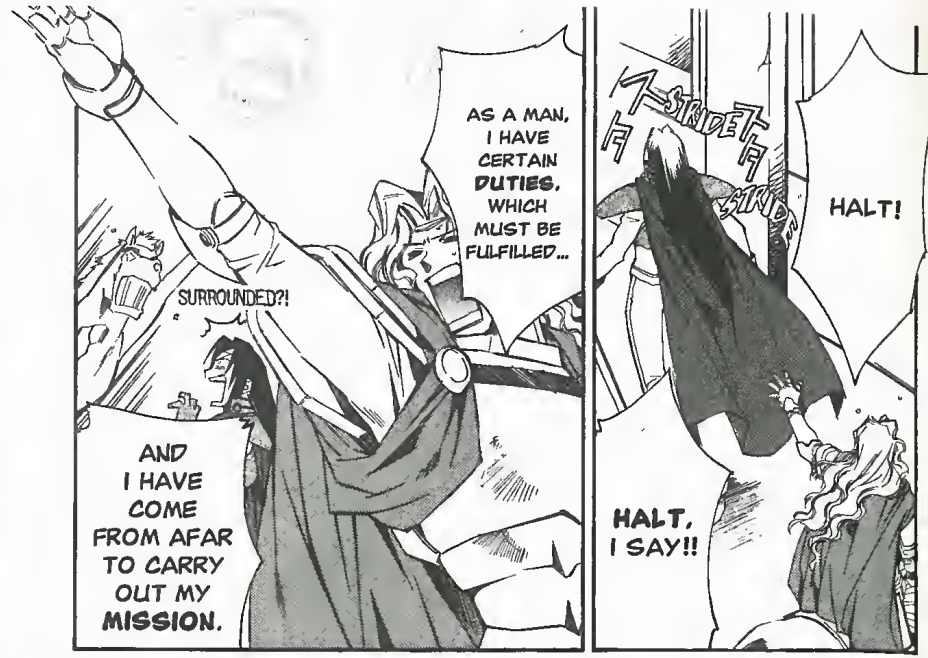
YOU'VE SAVED OUR VILLAGE!
O, MIGHTY HERO!
THANK YOU EVER SO MUCH!
NAAAH!
THINK NOTHING OF IT!
I SHOULD BE THE ONE THANKING YOU FOR ALL THIS ANCIENT OAK!
STUFFED.
LOUIE...
SELECIA MY DEAR,
IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE.
BESIDES, I JUST COULDN'T IGNORE A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN DISTRESS.
HEH

ADVENTURE 7
IN THE NAME OF LOVE... (Part 1)

# 魔法戦士 リウイ
LOUIE the RUNE SOLDIER

## 紅炎のバスタード

OH, MY.
ARE YOU REFERRING TO ME?
OUCH...
STUPID SON OF A BITCH! WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
KA-TUMBLE
ADVENTURE 7
IN THE NAME OF LOVE... (Part 1)

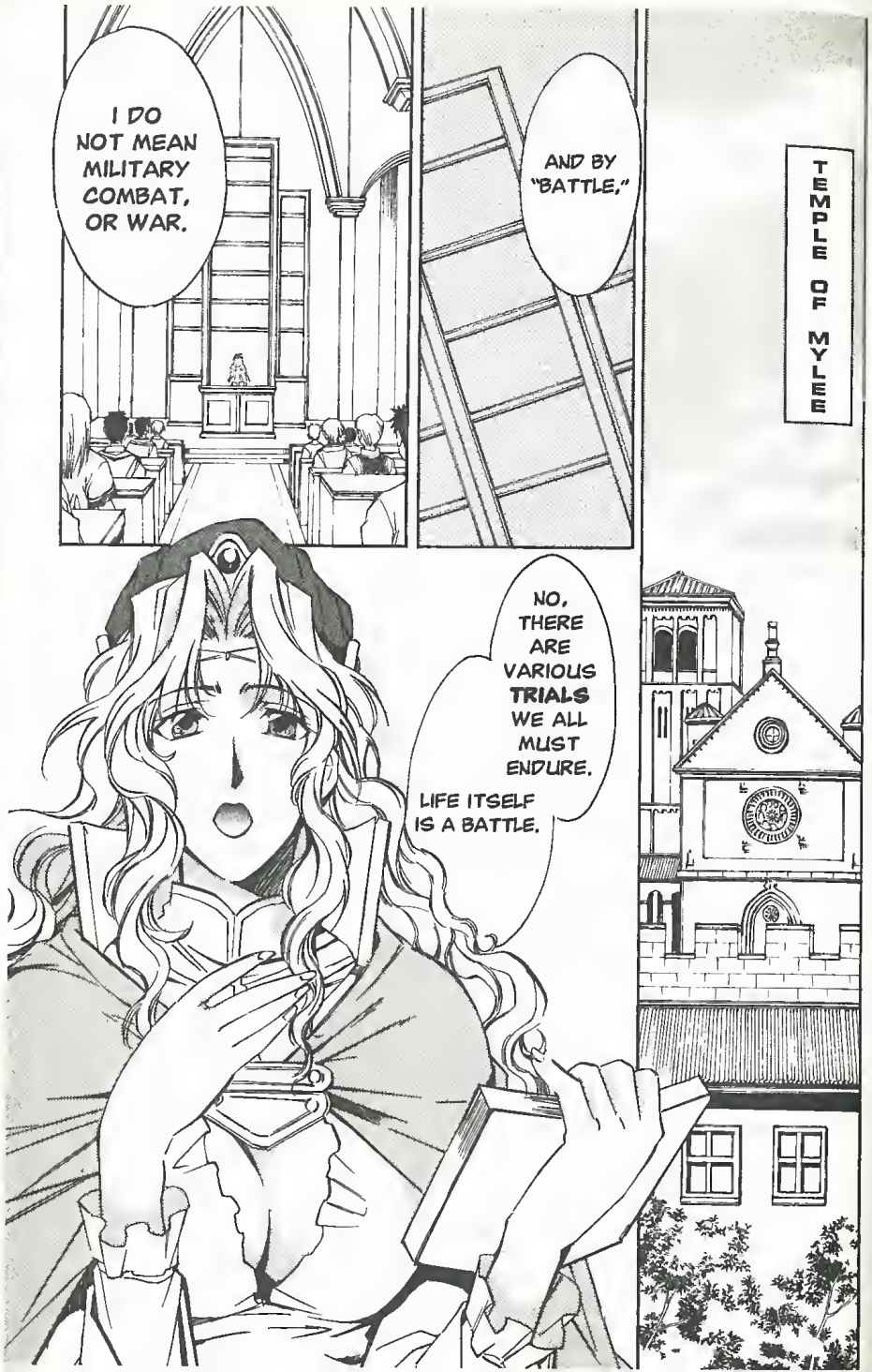

AS A MAN, I HAVE CERTAIN DUTIES, WHICH MUST BE FULFILLED...
SURROUNDED?!
AND I HAVE COME FROM AFAR TO CARRY OUT MY MISSION.
HALT!
HALT, I SAY!!

VERILY, I AM A PILGRIM ON THE ROAD OF LOVE!
YIKES! THIS GUY'S TROUBLE...
WHY, YOU ASK? I SHALL TELL YOU!
IT IS FOR LOVE THAT I TRAVEL! THAT SENTIMENT WHICH IS MOST SACRED, MOST SUBLIME.

I AM A KNIGHT OF RAMLIEARTH!
MY NAME... IS CONRAD!
DAAA

HALT!
HM. WELL, I GUESS I JUST IMAGINED GETTIN' KICKED BY SOME WEIRD GUY'S HORSE.
LATER

BU
BU
BU
BU
BU
THE SOUND OF GOOSE BUMPS


TEMPLE OF MYLEE
AND BY "BATTLE,"
I DO NOT MEAN MILITARY COMBAT, OR WAR.
NO, THERE ARE VARIOUS TRIALS WE ALL MUST ENDURE.
LIFE ITSELF IS A BATTLE.

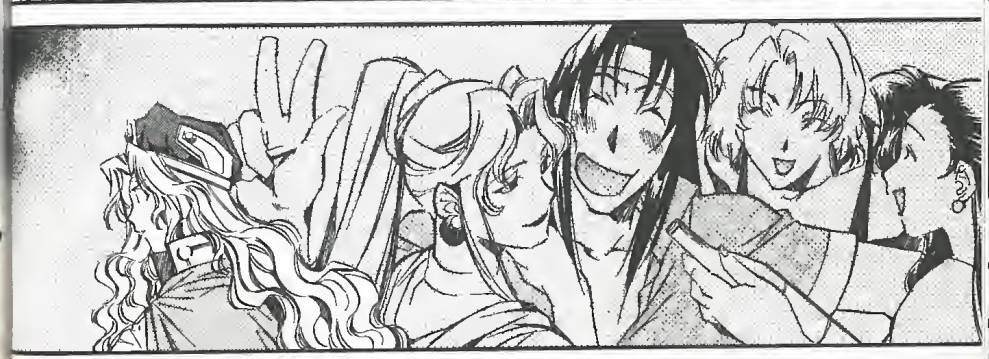
WAUGH!
THEREFORE, I MUST ASK FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!!
COULD YOU PERCHANCE DIRECT ME TO THE TEMPLE OF MYLEE?
TWITCH TWITCH
SERIOUSLY?

A HERO...
PISSED
CEILING
IS...

AND, A TRUE HERO IS...

HA HA HA HA HA
GASP

A HERO IS...



A HERO?
WHAT IS...
SIGH...

YAY!
I JUST DON'T GET IT!!
IS HE REALLY AN IDIOT, OR IS IT JUST A SHOW? HOW CAN HE BE A HERO?
IT'S BECAUSE OF HIM!!
WELL,
I'M SURE IT'S NO MYSTERY WHY.
SWAY

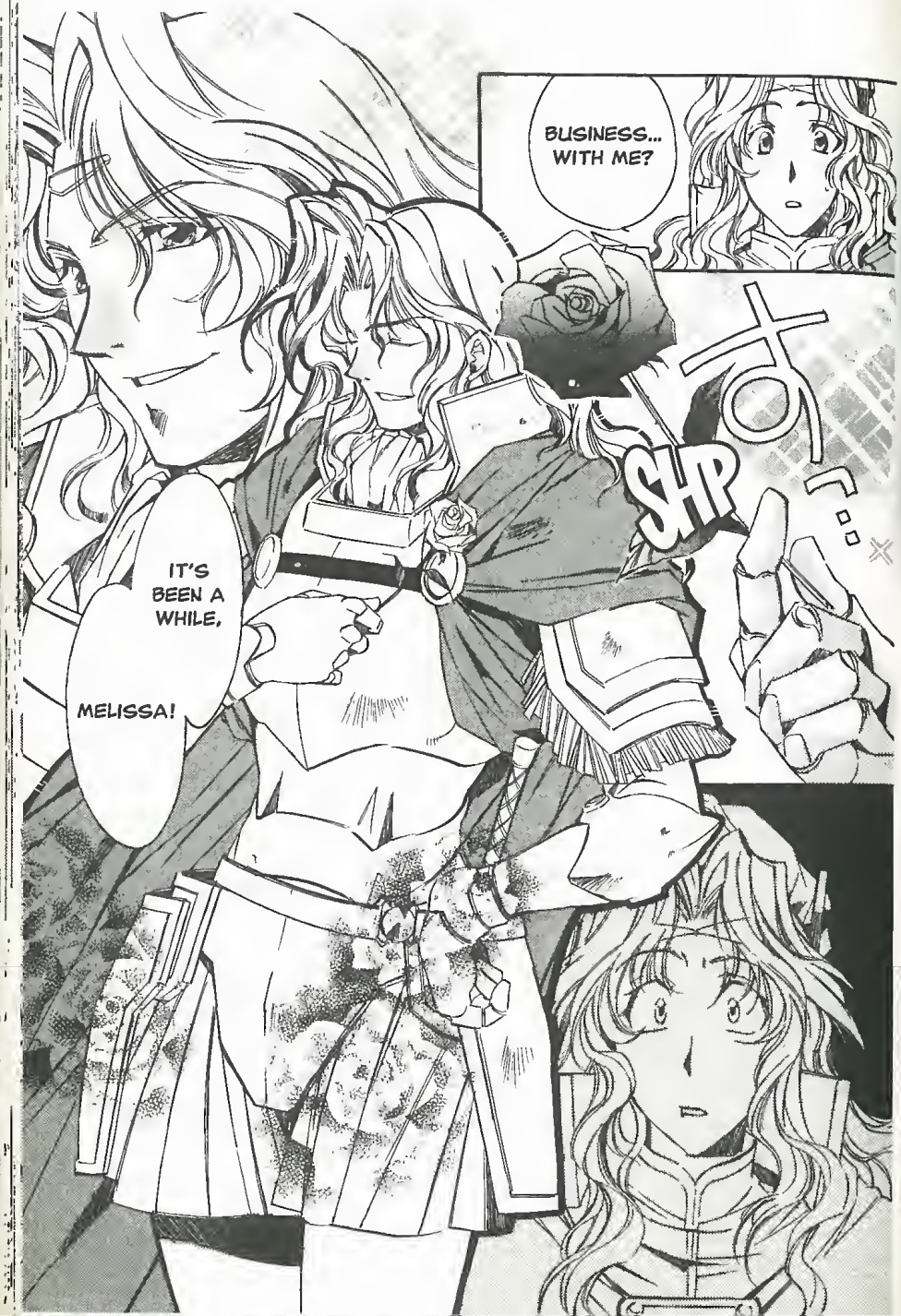
I HOPE IT'S NOT TOO MUCH FOR HER.
HOW LONG DOES MELISSA HAVE TO PUT UP WITH HIM?

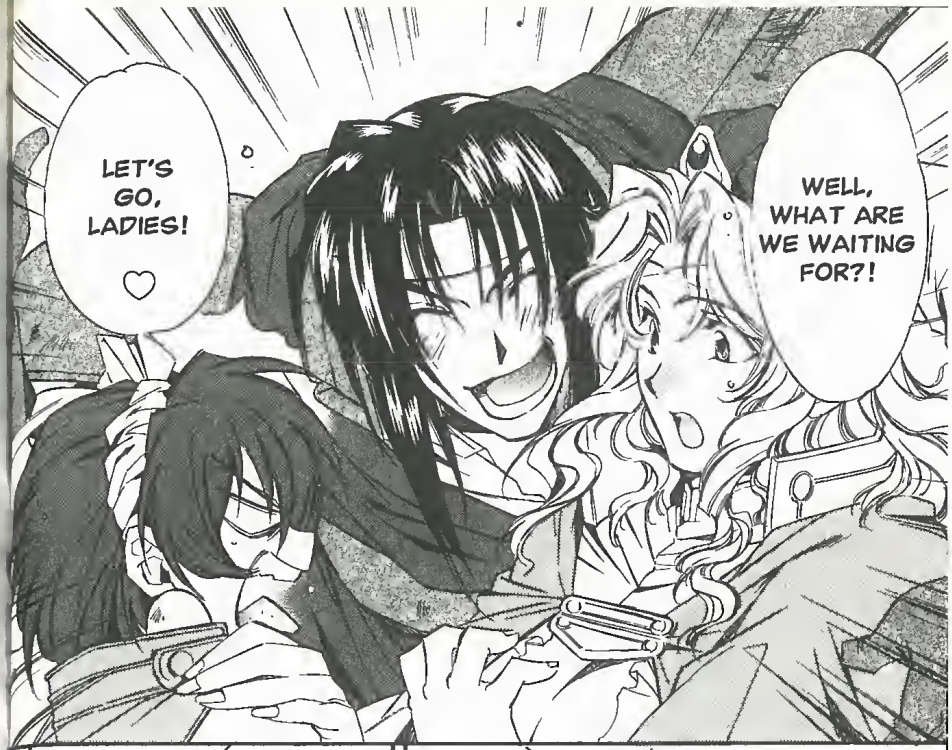
MURMUR
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.

MELISSA'S ACTING STRANGE.
YEAH.

HEY!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
MELISSA IS MY...
OH, MY
MERRILL, YOU'RE PROBABLY HUNGRY.
MELISSA!
CLASP
WHY DON'T WE GO GET SOME LUNCH?
SURE!

IF ANYTHING BAD HAPPENS TO MELISSA,
HE'S GONNA PAY.
FOR NOW, ALL WE CAN DO IS WATCH OVER HER.
LOOK, SHE'S AN ORACLE. THIS IS HER JOB.
I CAN FORGET ABOUT WHO I USED TO BE, AND HOW I WAS RAISED IN THE SLUMS...
WHEN I'M WITH MELISSA...
I...
I GUESS SO.

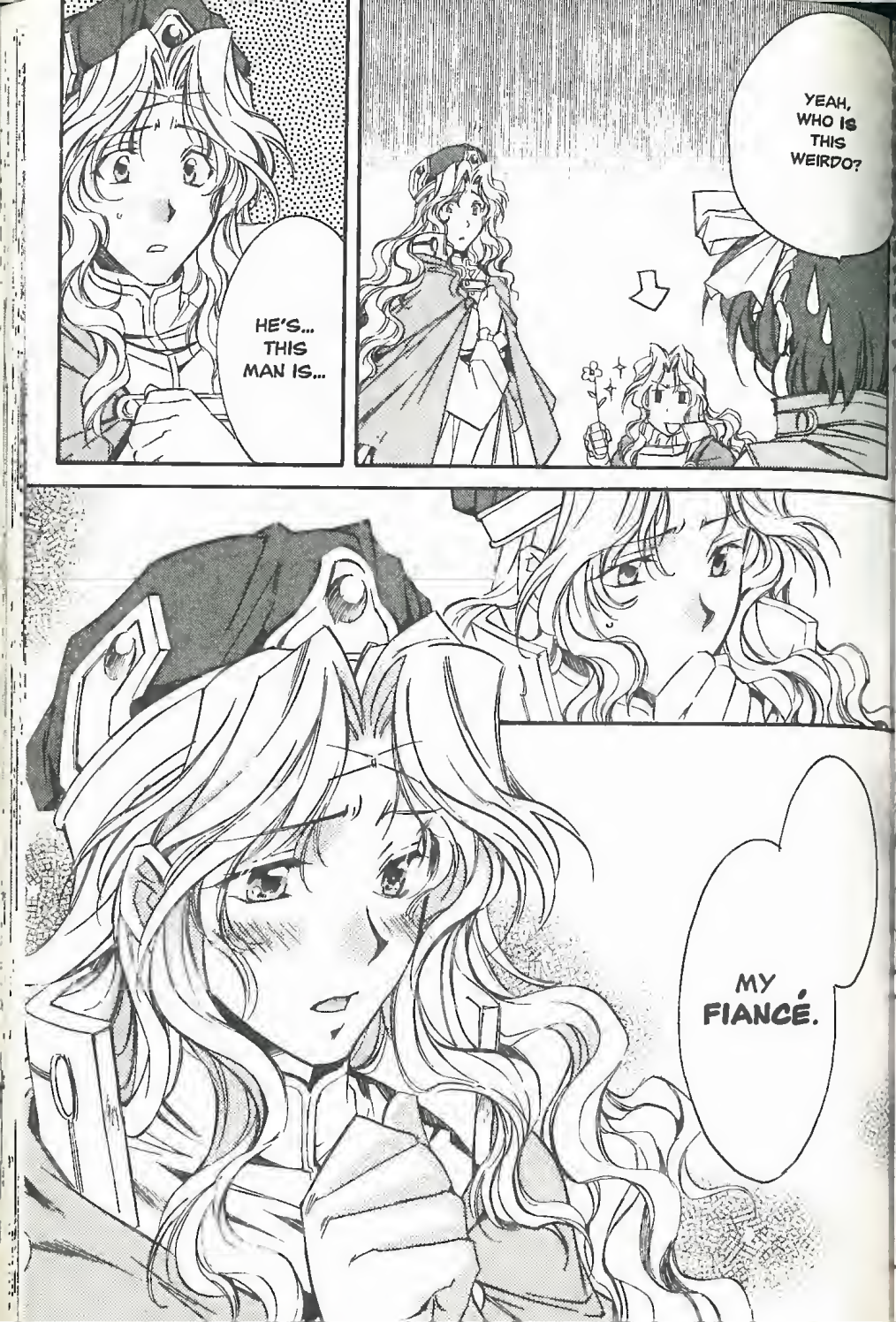

BUSINESS... WITH ME?
SHP
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, MELISSA!


WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?!
LET'S GO, LADIES! ♡

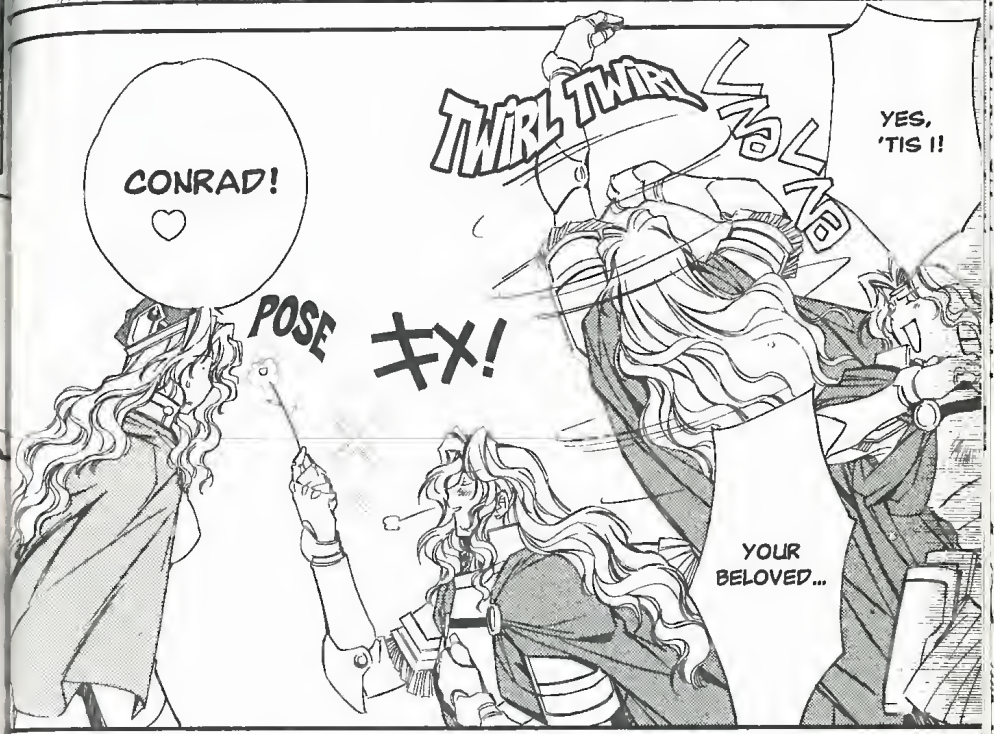
AND I BROUGHT ALONG A DUDE WHO SAYS HE'S GOT SOME BUSINESS WITH YOU.

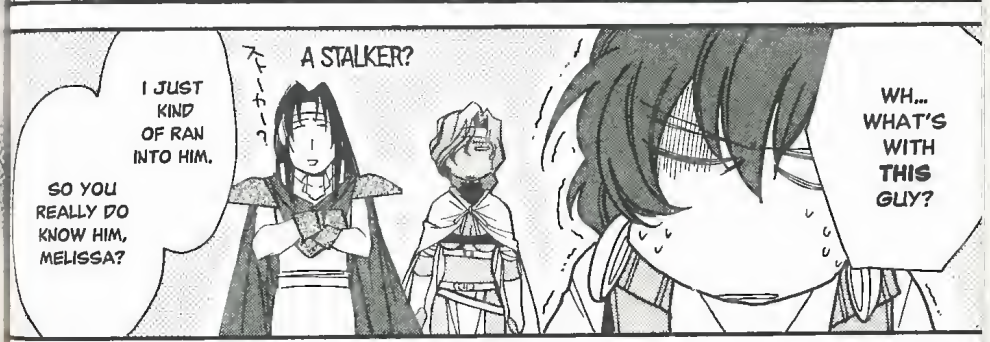
HEY, GUYS! LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE ALL HERE.
HOWDY
ちわっ
HOWDY
ちわっ

BLEH!
YOU'RE THE LAST PERSON I WANT TO SEE RIGHT NOW!
OH, AREN'T YOU NICE? AND ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS SHOW YOU MY NEW STAFF!

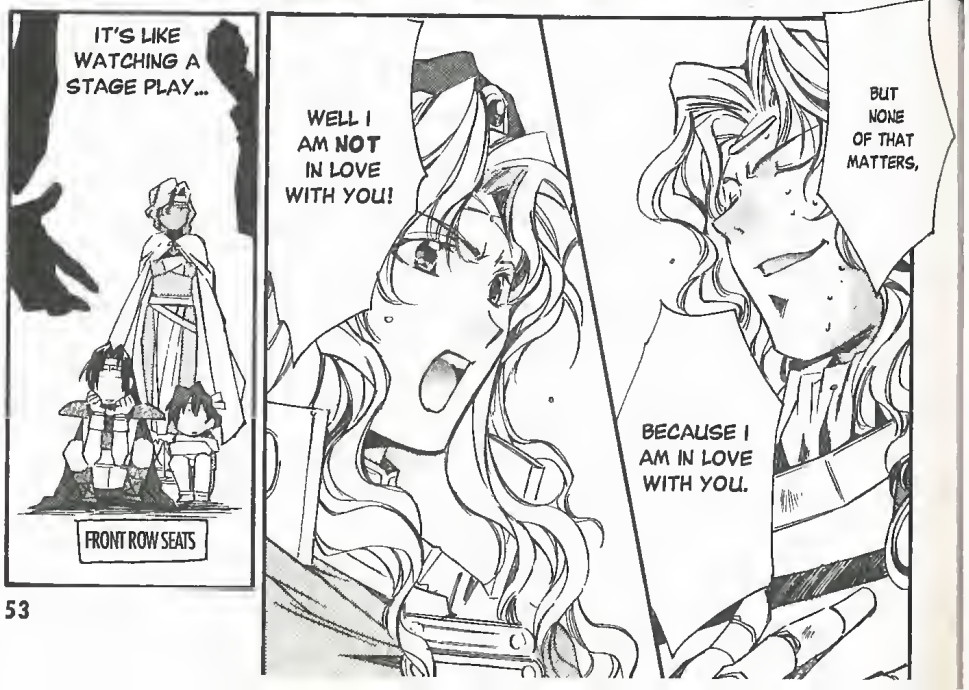

HE'S... THIS MAN IS...
YEAH, WHO IS THIS WEIRDO?
MY FIANCÉ.

CONRAD!

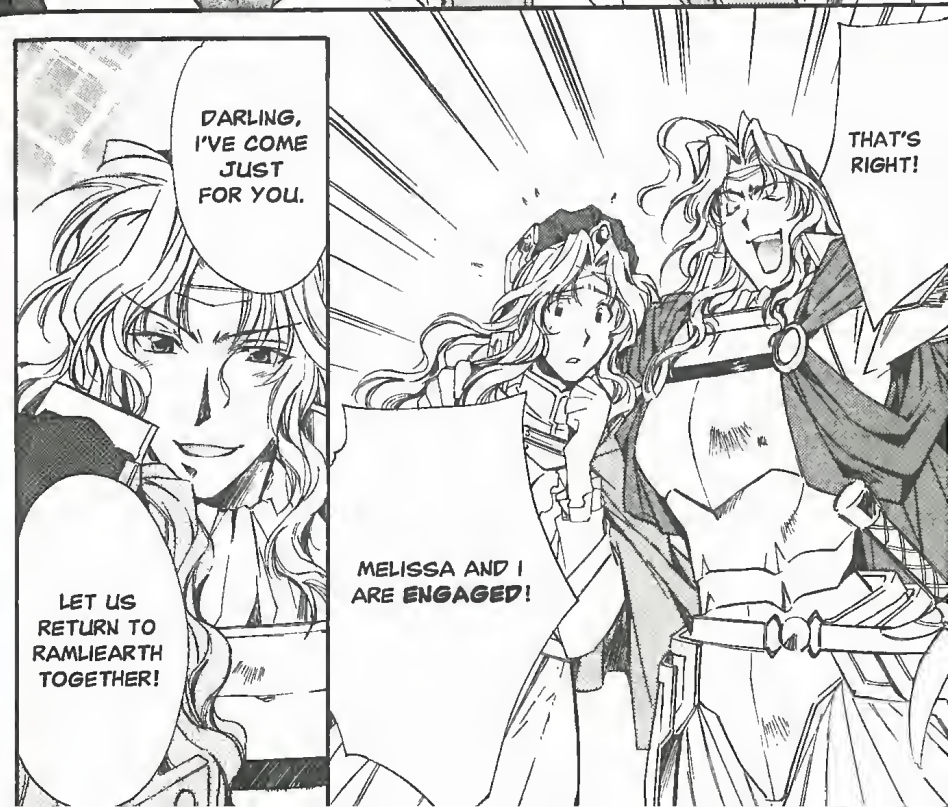

CONRAD!
♡
POSE
キメ!
TWIRL TWIRL
くるくる
YES, 'TIS I!
YOUR BELOVED...

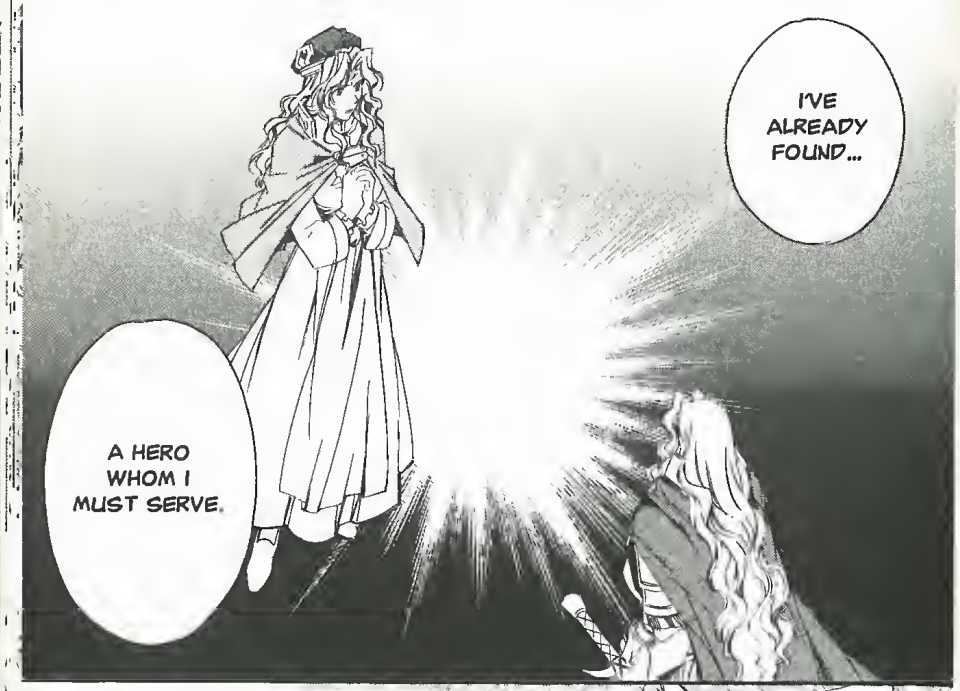

A STALKER?
ストーカー?
I JUST KIND OF RAN INTO HIM.
SO YOU REALLY DO KNOW HIM, MELISSA?
WH... WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY?

ABSOLUTELY NOT.
SHOCK
I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TOWARDS ANY MARRIAGE MY FATHER MIGHT HAVE ARRANGED FOR ME!!
I LEFT MY FAMILY BEHIND!
I'VE ALREADY REFUSED YOU ONCE.

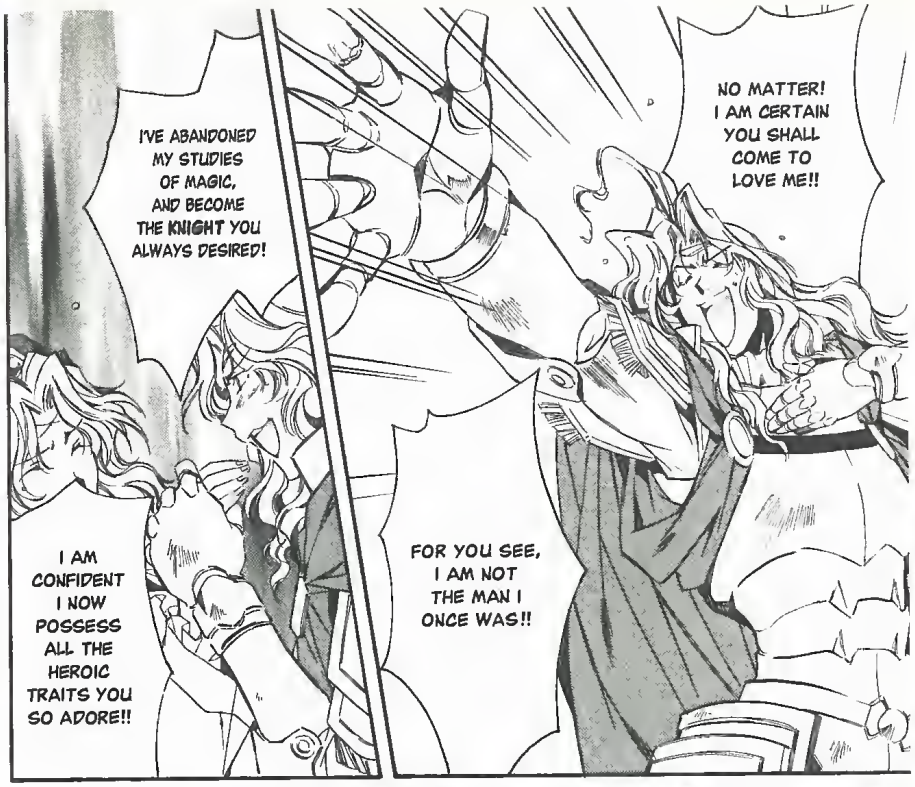

IT'S LIKE WATCHING A STAGE PLAY...
FRONT ROW SEATS
WELL I AM NOT IN LOVE WITH YOU!
BUT NONE OF THAT MATTERS,
BECAUSE I AM IN LOVE WITH YOU.

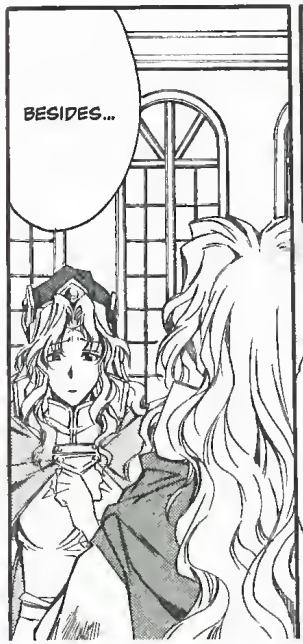
FIANCÉ?!


DARLING, I'VE COME JUST FOR YOU.
LET US RETURN TO RAMLIEARTH TOGETHER!
THAT'S RIGHT!
MELISSA AND I ARE ENGAGED!


I'VE ALREADY FOUND...
A HERO WHOM I MUST SERVE.

WHA-?
SURELY, YOU JEST!
WH...WHO IN THE WORLD COULD IT BE?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

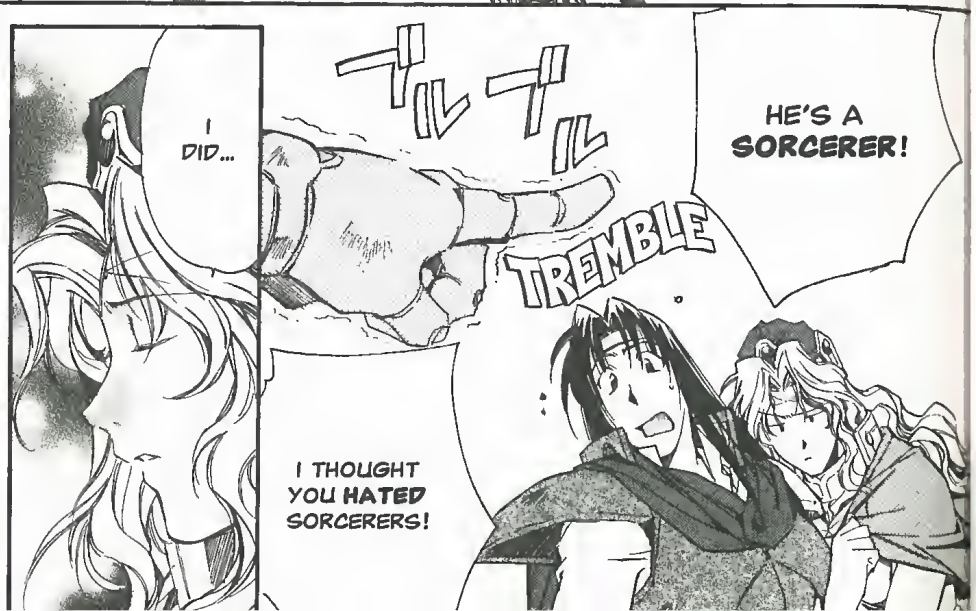

I'VE ABANDONED MY STUDIES OF MAGIC, AND BECOME THE KNIGHT YOU ALWAYS DESIRED!
NO MATTER! I AM CERTAIN YOU SHALL COME TO LOVE ME!!
I AM CONFIDENT I NOW POSSESS ALL THE HEROIC TRAITS YOU SO ADORE!!
FOR YOU SEE, I AM NOT THE MAN I ONCE WAS!!

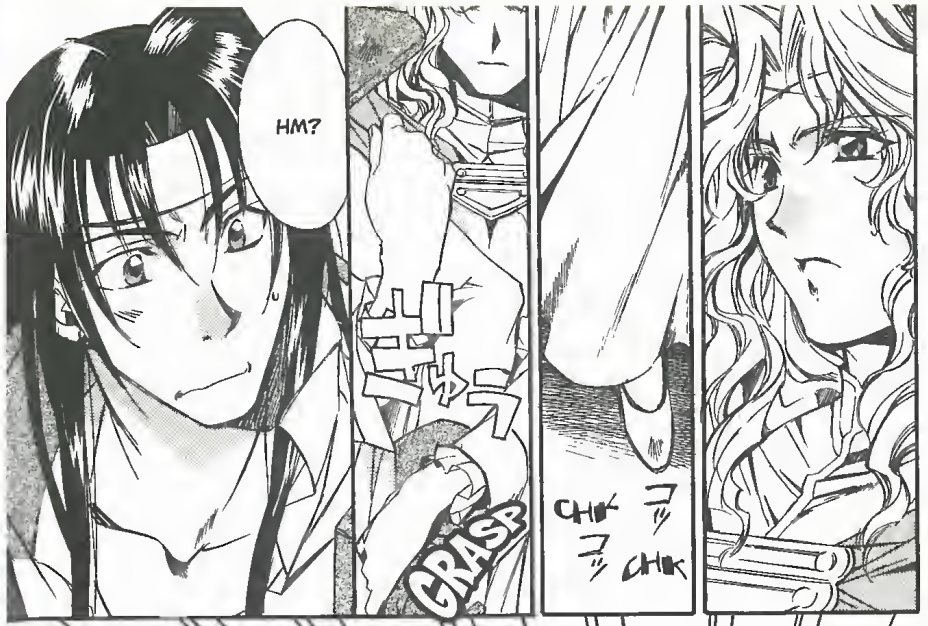

BESIDES...

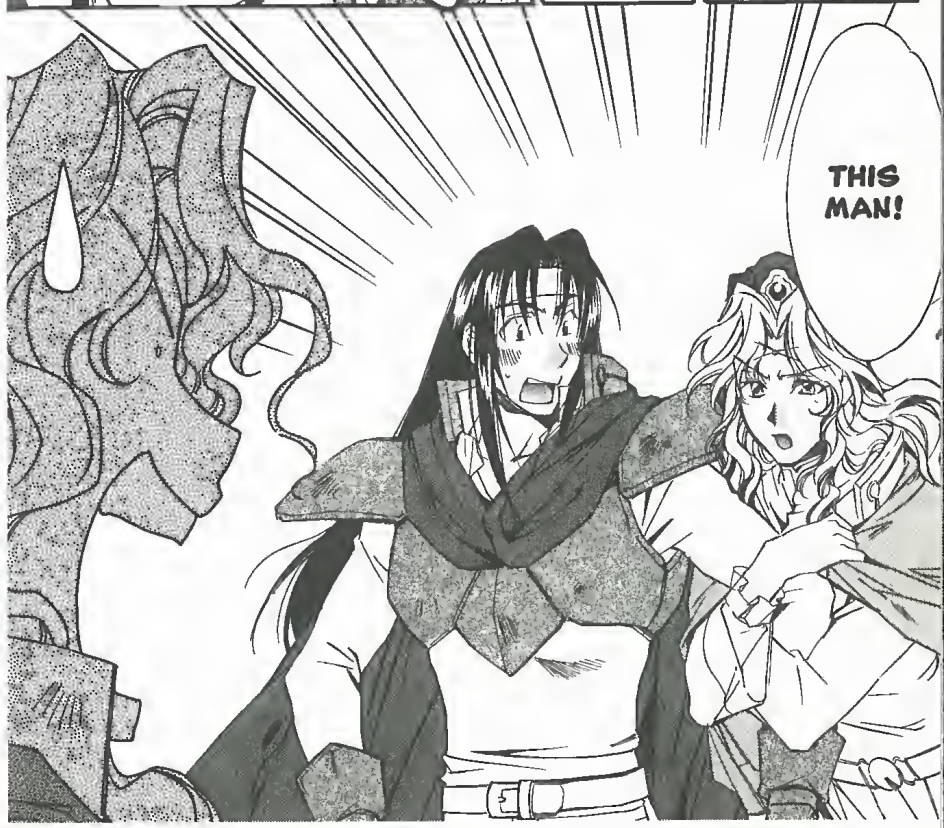
IT CERTAINLY DOESN'T SEEM THAT WAY TO ME...

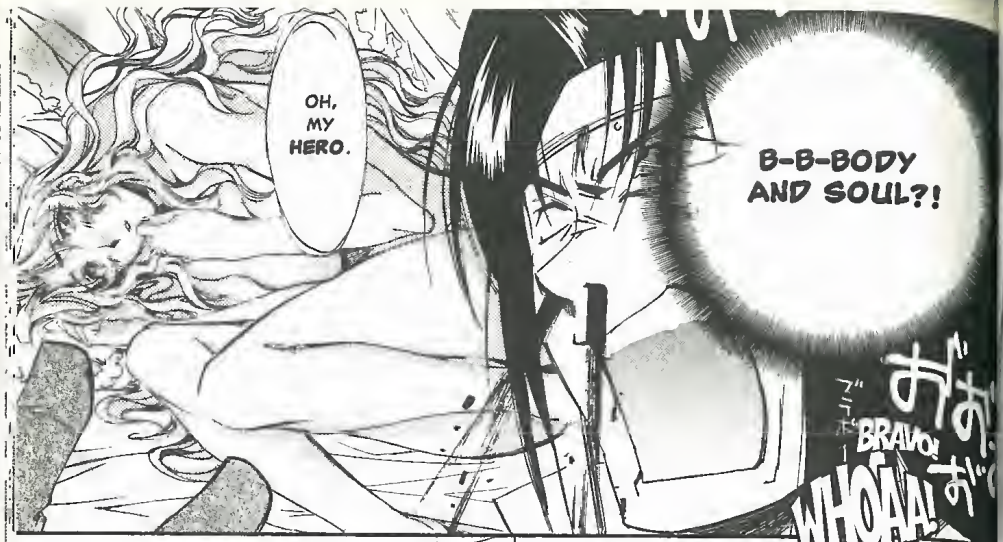
SO NOW THAT GUY THINKS HE IS MELISSA'S HERO.
SCUMBAG
OH, BROTHER...

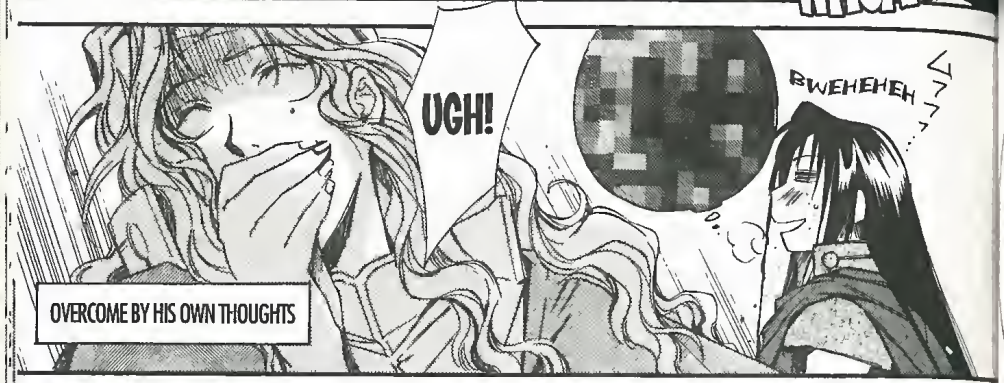
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
WHOA,
WHAT THE... MELISSA?
IT...IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!


I DID...
ブルブル
TREMBLE
HE'S A SORCERER!
I THOUGHT YOU HATED SORCERERS!

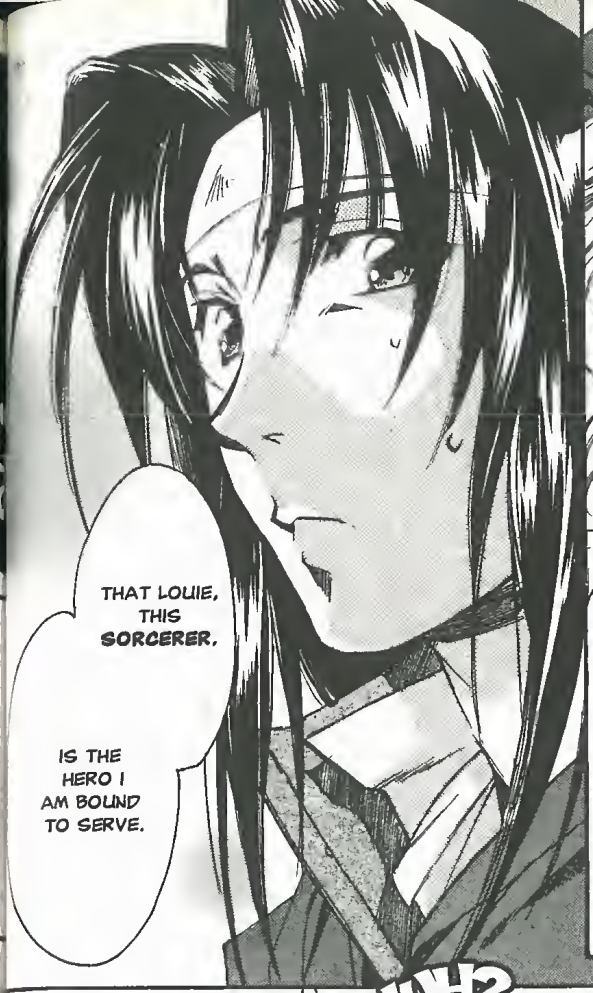

HM?
ギュッ
GRASP
CHIK
ヨッ
CHIK


THIS MAN!


OH, MY HERO.
B-B-BODY AND SOUL?!
BRAVO!
WHOAA!


UGH!
BWEHEHEH
OVERCOME BY HIS OWN THOUGHTS

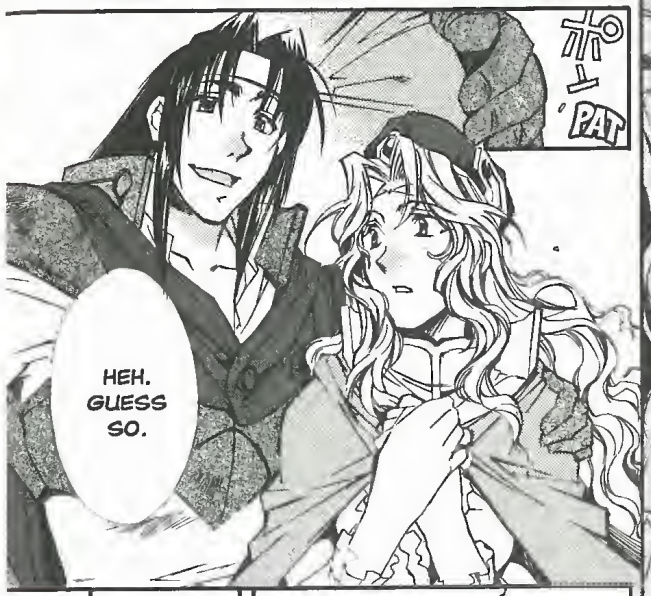
BUT SHE SURE DOESN'T SEEM TO LIKE THAT WEIRD--ER, OTHER GUY.
WAIT, THERE'S NO WAY SHE'D DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
HUH?

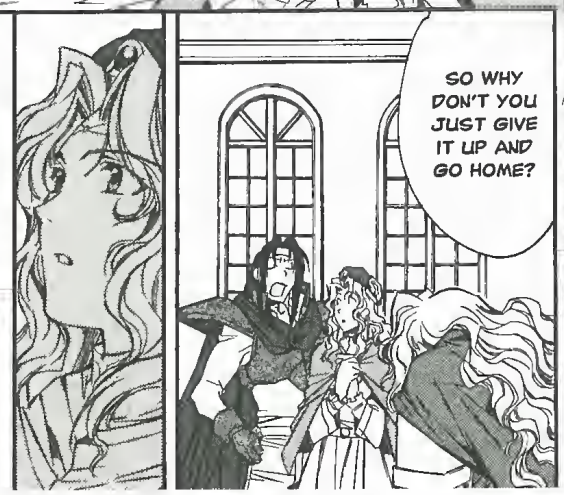

BUT...
THE GREAT MYLEE GRANTED ME A REVELATION,
THAT LOUIE, THIS SORCERER,
IS THE HERO I AM BOUND TO SERVE.

I MUST DEVOTE MYSELF TO HIM, BODY AND SOUL.
HUH?
はあ?
THEREFORE, I MUST HELP THIS MAN AND...
AND GUIDE HIM.

GRR
FWIP
THWAP
HUH?
HIS GLOVE?

K-SHNK
YOU'RE HER HERO?


PAT
HEH. GUESS SO.

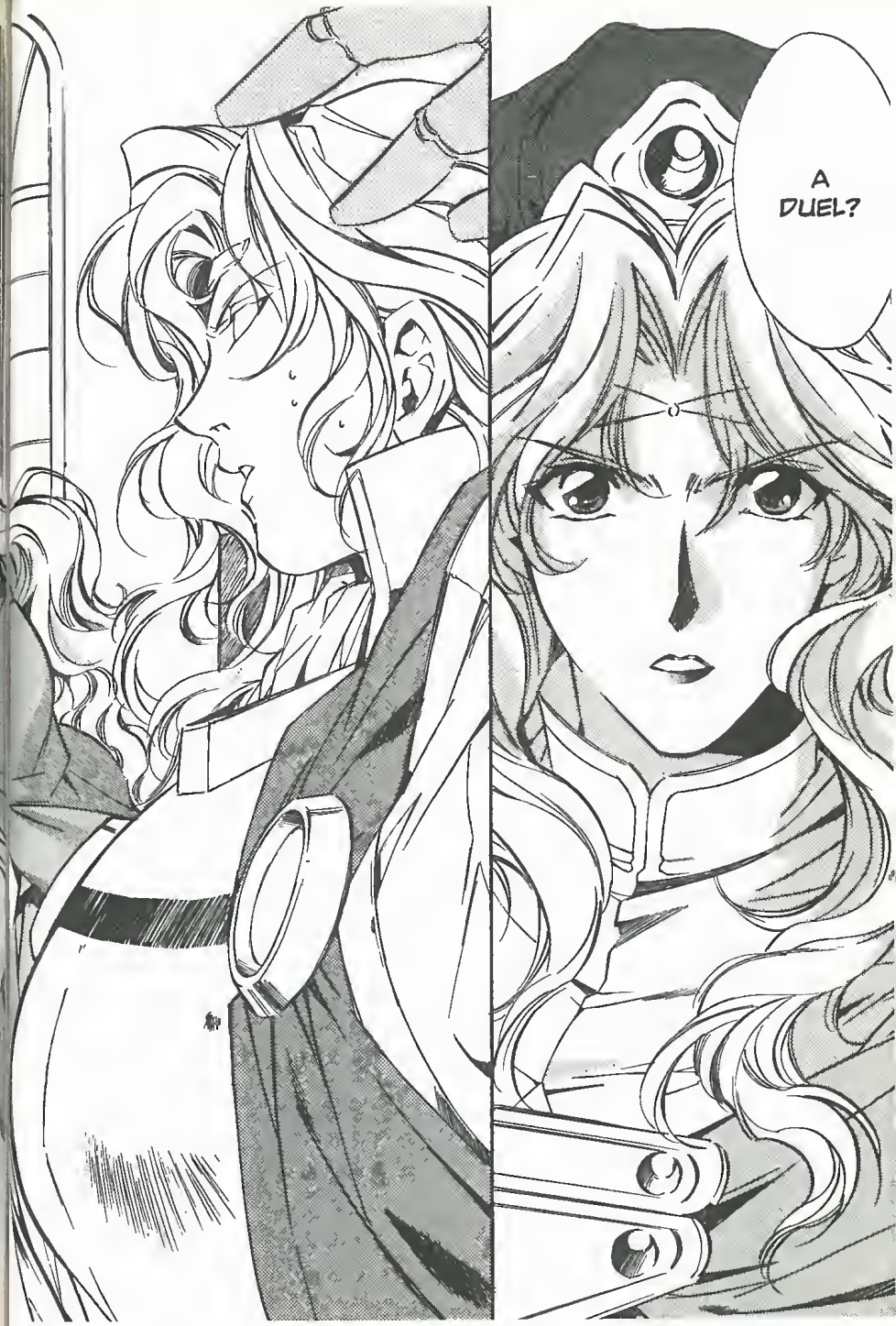

SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST GIVE IT UP AND GO HOME?

I'M...
IMPOSSIBLE!

ADVENTURE 8
IN THE NAME OF LOVE (Part 2)
FWSH
YES, A DUEL!
COME, LOUIE!
WHETHER 'TIS I, THE KNIGHT OF LOVE...
LET US ASK MYLEE WHO THE TRUE HERO IS-
HERE'S A BIG, FAT NO!
BWISH
CONRAD! OR... HEH.
NAA, I THINK I'LL PASS.

A DUEL, THEN!
I CHALLENGE YOU TO A DUEL!
BA-BAM
HUH?!

ADVENTURE 8
IN THE NAME OF LOVE (Part 2)

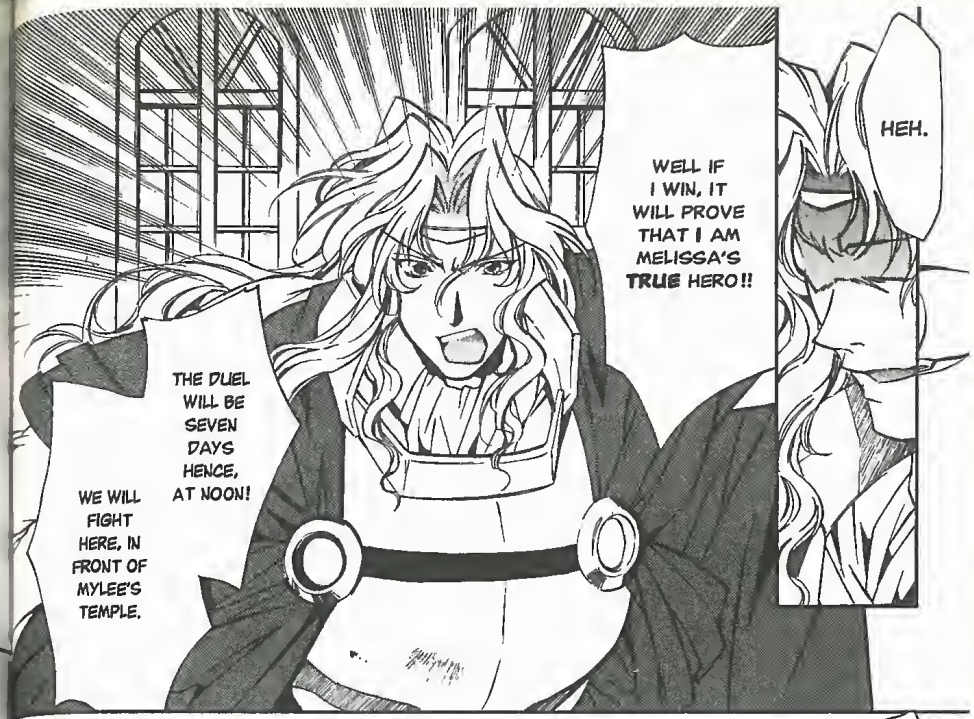


DAMN iT!
VERY WELL. THEN WE ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE!
I DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE AGAIN!
KA-CLANG
HOWEVER, IF HE WINS...
"HE"
HWEH
CONRAD...
SPARKLE
IF YOU WIN, THEN I WILL RETURN TO RAMLIEARTH WITH YOU.
I'M TELLING YOU, WE'RE NOT ENGAGED!
WHIMPER
MELISSA... YOU WOULD SAY SUCH THINGS TO YOUR OWN BETROTHED?

SHOCK
A REAL HERO WOULDN'T RUN AWAY FROM A FIGHT, WOULD HE?!
QUIT FOOLIN' AROUND, MELISSA!
WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO FIGHT PRINCE WEIRDO OVER HERE?
BECAUSE!
CLARE
RAAGH!
YOU IDIOT!! IF IT'S A FIGHT, I'M THERE!
EVEN IF I GOTTA BUY TICKETS!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
TREMBLE

YEAH. BUT...
LIKE I SAID, IF THERE'S A FIGHT, I'M THERE!
OH!
HEY! WHY THE HECK SHOULD I HAVE TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR STUPID LOVERS' QUARREL?!
TRUE ENOUGH.
YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS...

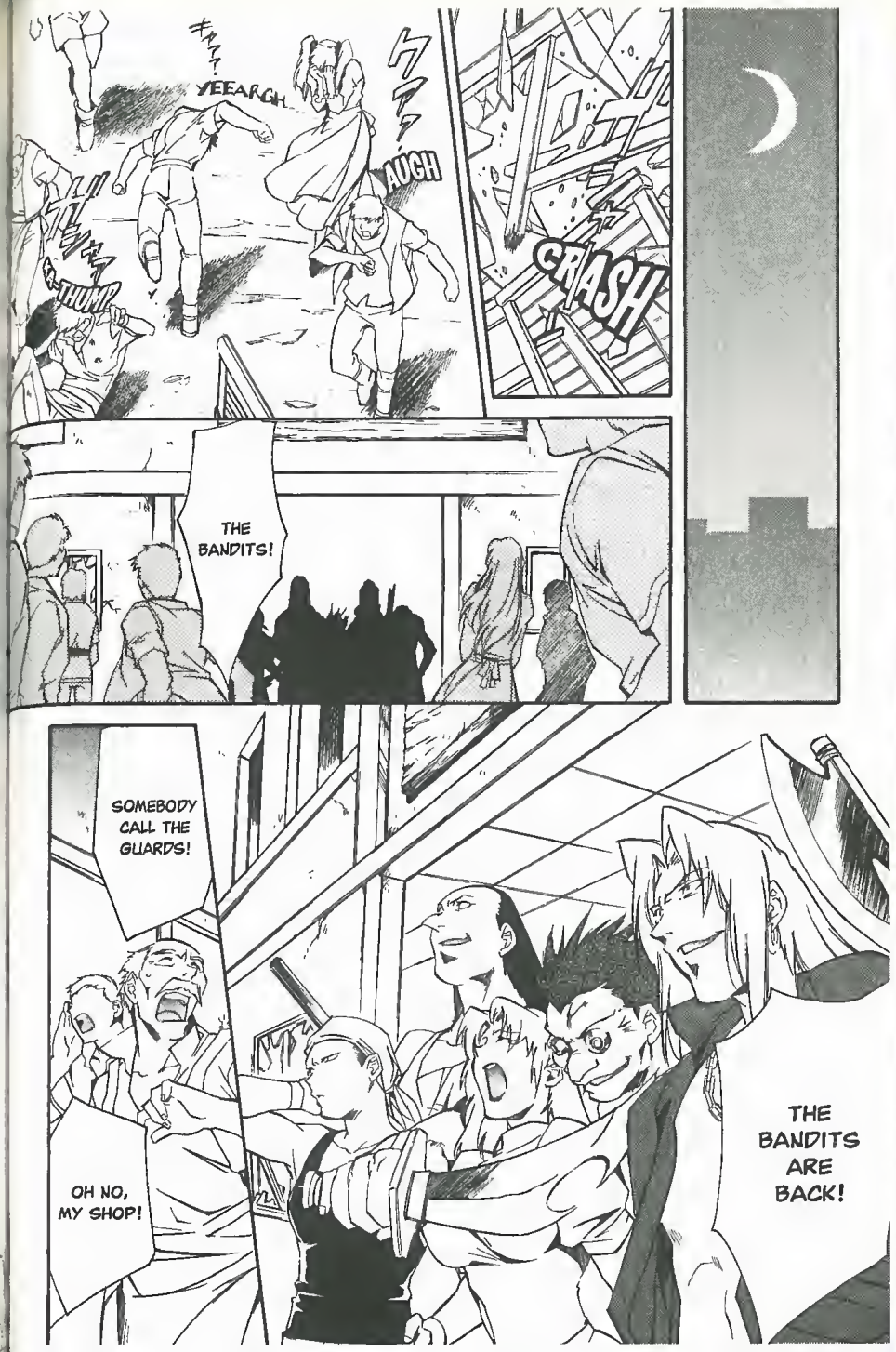
HA HA HA HA HA
はははは
SIGH
BESIDES, THERE'S NO WAY I COULD LOSE TO A CANDY-ASS LIKE HIM!
YOU JUST LEAVE EVERY-THING TO LOUIE!


HEH.
WELL IF I WIN, IT WILL PROVE THAT I AM MELISSA'S TRUE HERO!!
THE DUEL WILL BE SEVEN DAYS HENCE, AT NOON!
WE WILL FIGHT HERE, IN FRONT OF MYLEE'S TEMPLE.

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ
RUMBLE
YOU KNOW THE GUY'S A TOTAL LOSER, RIGHT? GEEZ! I CAN'T STAND GUYS LIKE HIM!

WAIT A MINUTE!
UNTIL THEN!
L-CLOMP
L-CLOMP
HANG ON, YOU'RE ACCEPTING HIS CHALLENGE?
YOU FORGOT THIS!

THIS IS NOTHING...
THERE WILL BE NO NEED FOR THAT.
THAT I, CONRAD,
KNIGHT OF RAMLIEARTH, CANNOT HANDLE.
HEH HEH.
YOU WANNA GET YER HEAD KICKED IN?
HUH? WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU ON ABOUT?


YEEARGH
AUGH
THUMP
CRASH
THE BANDITS!
SOMEBODY CALL THE GUARDS!
OH NO, MY SHOP!
THE BANDITS ARE BACK!

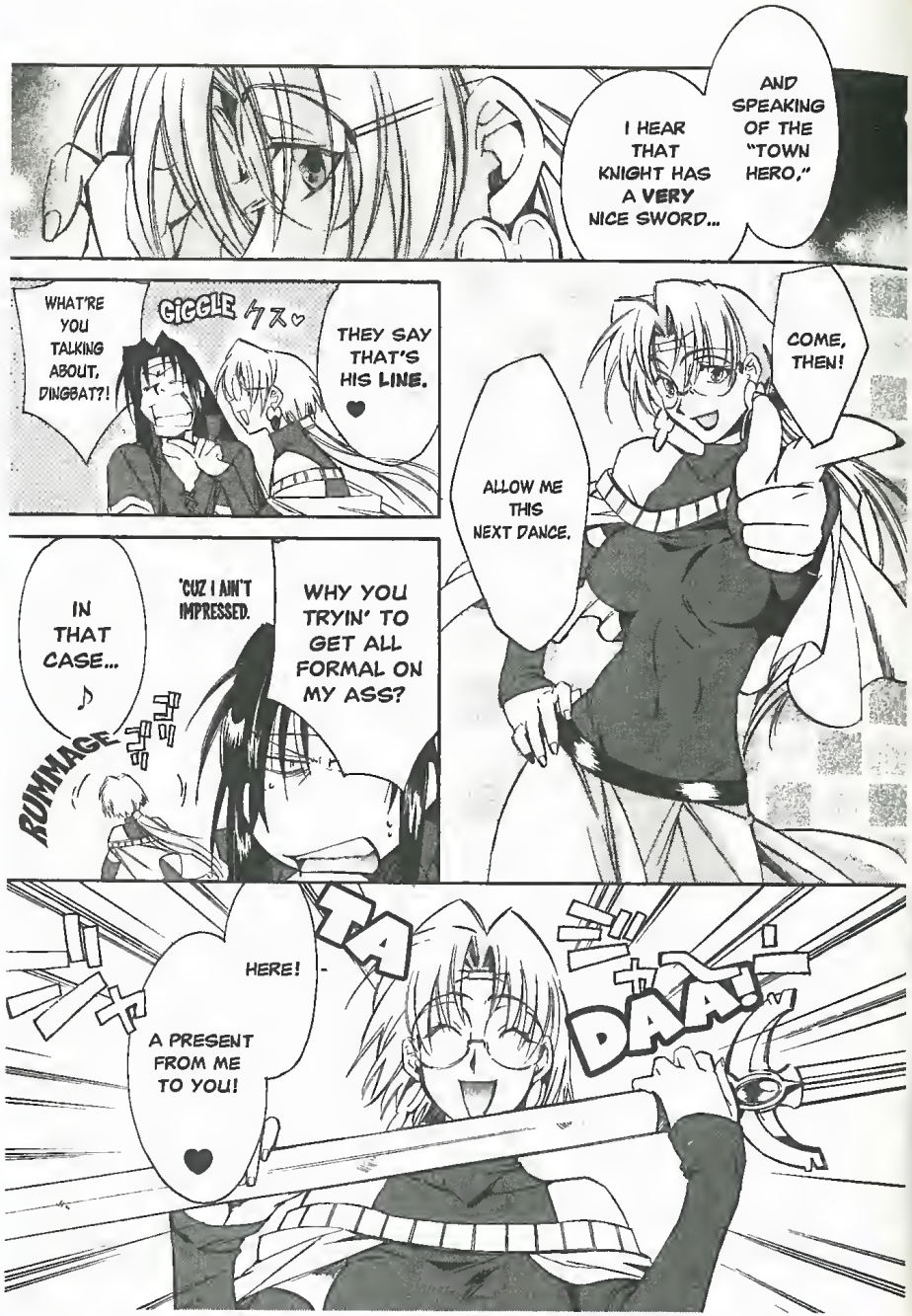
HEH HEH.
PITIFUL.
CHK
SHHHHK
HOORAY
WOW...
WHAT AMAZING SWORDS-MANSHIP!

SON OF A...
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
RAUGHH
GLIMMER
COME, THEN.
ALLOW ME THIS NEXT DANCE.
KA-KLANG
YEEAHあ

THIS IS TERRIBLE!
JUST TERRIBLE!
THERE'S A RUMOR ALL OVER TOWN THAT...
MELISSA'S WEIRD FRIEND BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF A GANG OF BANDITS!
WHAT?
NAAH, IT'S GOTTA BE A MISTAKE.
SO... IS THE RUMOR TRUE OR NOT?
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, TOO!
SOME OF MY FRIENDS IN THE THIEVES' GUILD ARE LOOKING INTO IT.
IF IT IS TRUE, THEN THAT KNIGHT...
IS A FIRST-RATE SWORDSMAN. THEY SAID HE TOOK OUT EACH BANDIT WITH JUST ONE STROKE!
WELL, MORE OR LESS. HEH HEH HEH.
WELL, THEN.
THAT KNIGHT COULD INDEED BE A SKILLED FIGHTER.
EXACTLY! そういう事!!
CONRAD... A SKILLED FIGHTER?
...

IF YOU DIE, THEN I SHALL FOLLOW.
OH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO
IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE TOO LATE FOR THIS NOW,
BUT DO YOU WANT TO GET IN SOME MORE SWORD PRACTICE?
HOW'S THAT SUPPOSED TO PUT ME AT EASE?
PLEASE BE AT EASE.
YOU'D PROBABLY END UP KILLING ME BEFORE THE DUEL!
GIMME A BREAK!
HA
SOUNDS MORE LIKE MOONSHINE TO ME.
When I die, I'll ascend to the heavens and twinkle beautifully among all the stars.
HEH HEH

WELL, IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED, I'LL SEE IF I CAN GET IT FOR YOU.
YOU JUST LET ME KNOW. 'CUZ THIS'LL PROBABLY BE YOUR LAST CHANCE...
WHAT NOW, MERRILL?
POKE POKE
WHAT THE HECK DO YOU WANT?!
HEY.
YOU'RE NOT?
GIVE IT A REST!
I'M NOT GONNA DIE, OKAY?!


AND SPEAKING OF THE "TOWN HERO,"
I HEAR THAT KNIGHT HAS A VERY NICE SWORD...
GIGGLE クス♡
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, DINGBAT?!
THEY SAY THAT'S HIS LINE. ♥
COME, THEN!
ALLOW ME THIS NEXT DANCE.
RUMMAGE
IN THAT CASE... ♪
'CUZ I AIN'T IMPRESSED.
WHY YOU TRYIN' TO GET ALL FORMAL ON MY ASS?
HERE!
A PRESENT FROM ME TO YOU! ♥
TA
DAA!

ILA... HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?
OH, MY!
WELL, IT IS THE TALK OF THE TOWN.
SO YOU'VE BEEN CHALLENGED TO A DUEL, HUH?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
YEAH.
EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT IT -- THE TOWN HERO VERSUS THE DIRTBAG SORCERER.
THEY'VE GOT THE NERVE TO CALL ME A DIRTBAG?! (AIN'T FAR FROM THE MARK, THOUGH.)
AND I THINK WE KNOW WHO THE BAD GUY IS. ♪

BUT YOU'VE GOT TO!
YOU THINK I'M GONNA SAY SOME CORNY LINE LIKE THAT?!
PSHHH
C'MON
PRETTY, PRETTY PLEASE!
HUG
MAKE SURE YOU SAY IT, OKAY?
I'LL BE WATCHING!
...
KA-CHK
MAN, THIS IS STUPID.
FA-POP
POP

A SWORD?
"DANCE IN THE GATHERING GLOOM."
DON'T TELL ME THIS IS YOUR "PARTING GIFT."
AN ANCIENT SWORD. IT'S PRICELESS!
WELL... YEAH. I GUESS SO.
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK? ISN'T IT FABULOUS?
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGHT HIM WITH THIS.
NOW, HERE'S YOUR CATCH-PHRASE:
SWIP

HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY REASON TO FIGHT.
BUT... LOUIE ISN'T FIGHTING FOR LOVE, OR BECAUSE HE BELIEVES IT'S HIS DESTINY.
WHY, THEN?
WHY DID HE ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE?
JUST DON'T LOSE.
HEY! WHAT'S YER PROBLEM, MERRILL?
BWOMP
BECAUSE THE GUY'S FIGHT-HAPPY, IS WHY.

OH, MAN.
WHAT A CROWD...
HEY, MELISSA. YOU WERE JUST KIDDING WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D FOLLOW HIM IF HE DIES, RIGHT?
WELL, THE DAY'S FINALLY COME.
I SEE YOU'RE CONCERNED FOR ME.
FWISH
HM
BUT, IF THIS DUEL IS PREORDAINED BY MYLEE...
THEN IT IS MY FIGHT, TOO!

YEAAAAH
HOORAAAY
FWEE
FWEE
HEH HEH.
WHAT THE HELL? GEESH.
CONRAD!
YAY, CONRAD!
GO, CONRAD!
HMPH. LEAVE IT TO ME.
I WONDER...
HMF
IT'LL WORK OUT
AFTER ALL, I GOT ALL THAT SWORD TRAINING FROM GENIE!
OKAY, IT'S TIME!
LET'S GET IT ON!!

UNGH...
HYAA!
WHA-?!
SNICK
HE'S SO FAST!

ALRIGHT...
BEGIN!
COME, THEN...
ALLOW ME THIS NEXT DANCE.
SHHK

SO THAT'S IT!
NOW I GET IT...
REMEMBER YOUR LINE!
ILA?
HEY, PAL.
THIS MATCH IS MINE!

HOW'D HE DO THAT?
DAMN...
SCUFF
NOT REALLY.
HIS STANCE SUCKS. HE'S LEAVING ALL KINDS OF OPENINGS.
RATHER, IT'S...
IT WAS LIKE ONLY HIS SWORD WAS MOVING...
LOUIE!
ONLY HIS SWORD...?
WAIT A MINUTE. COULD THAT SWORD...

FWOOSH
HUH?!

SWIP
FWO-!
WHAT?!
KA-CHANG
URGH.
PUNKS LIKE YOU...
ARE BETTER OFF DANCING IN THE GATHERING GLOOM!

CLANG
CLANG
THE SWORDS ARE FIGHTING EACH OTHER!
WH... WHAT THE-?!
BWAHAHA!
BASICALLY...
CHECK IT OUT!
CONRAD'S SWORD MOVES ON ITS OWN, THROUGH MAGIC. IT'S AN ENCHANTED SWORD!
WHAT THE HELL KINDA FIGHT IS THAT?!
HEH HEH.
K-FWUMP
CRACK

CUT THE CRAP, WILL YA?!
DON'T GO MESSING WITH PEOPLE'S HEADS!
WHAT A LOSER.
EH?
え?
BUT HEY, LUCKY FOR YOU, HUH?
NOW YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO BACK HOME, OR DIE OR ANYTHING.
I'M NOT SO SURE...
ABOUT THAT KIND OF FIGHT.
LEAVE IT TO ME!
ACTUALLY, I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT ANY OF THIS.

LOOK! LOOK WHAT HAPPENED!
I GOT CUT, DAMN IT!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING?!
WHAT THE HELL, ILA?!
STOMP
STOMP
WELL, THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR NOT LISTENING ♥ TO ME.
WHY I OUGHTTA...
GRR
GRR
GRR
MY WORD...
YOU NEVER TOLD ME IT WAS A SPELL!
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY THE PHRASE RIGHT AWAY? Don't you get it?

魔法戦士
LOUIE the RUNE SOLDIER
リウイ
紅炎のバスタード

ADVENTURE 9
THE REQUEST (Part 1)

カモン C'MON カモン

YOU GONNA MAKE A MOVE OR NOT?!

USE YOUR HIPS MORE! YOUR HIPS!

GET 'IM, GENIE!

I GOT MONEY RIDING ON THIS!

KILL HIM!! RUN HIS SORRY ASS THROUGH!!

THE OTHER DAY MUST'VE BEEN MY IMAGINATION!

EEEK!

I'M REALLY REALLY REALLY NOT SO SURE ABOUT THIS!

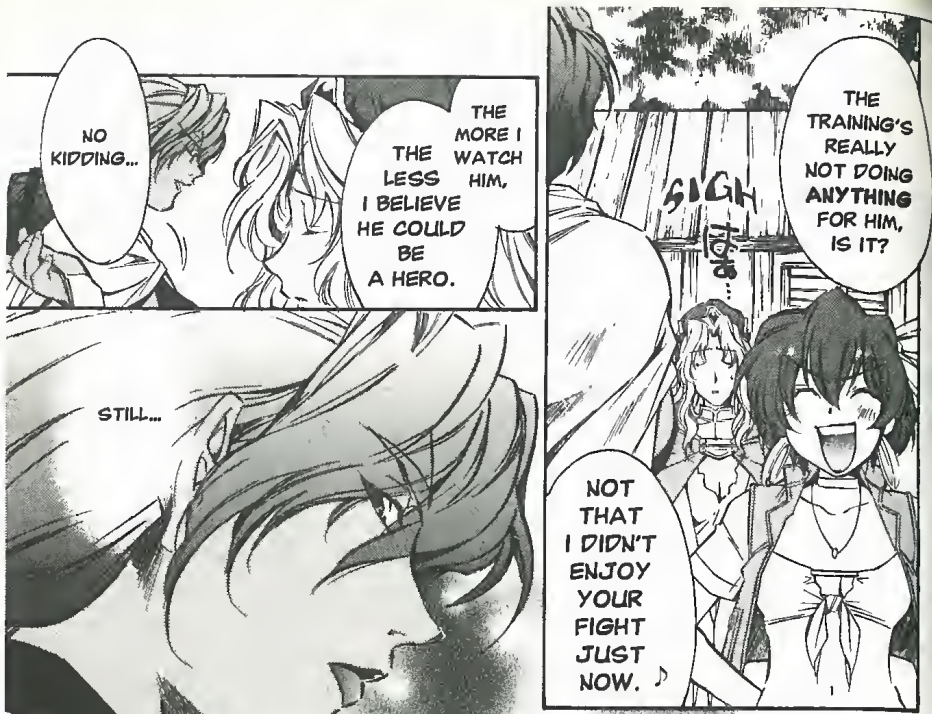
HOW COULD THIS KIND OF MAN BE A HERO?



魔法戦士 リウイ
LOUIE the RUNE SOLDIER
紅炎のバスター

ADVENTURE 9

# THE REQUEST (Part 1)


NO KIDDING...
THE MORE I WATCH HIM, THE LESS I BELIEVE HE COULD BE A HERO.
STILL...
SIGH
THE TRAINING'S REALLY NOT DOING ANYTHING FOR HIM, IS IT?
NOT THAT I DIDN'T ENJOY YOUR FIGHT JUST NOW. ♪

WHO THE HECK IS HE?
AMATEUR...
URGH.
OWWW, DAMN IT!

JUST WHEN I THINK HE COULDN'T BE ANY BIGGER OF AN IDIOT...
HE SURPRISES US WITH SOME INCREDIBLE DISPLAY OF STRENGTH.

DON'T GET COCKY JUST BECAUSE YOU WON YOUR LITTLE DUEL THE OTHER DAY.
IT'D TAKE ANOTHER TEN YEARS FOR AN AMATEUR LIKE YOU TO BEAT ME.
GODDAMN
YEAH, YEAH, SO SORRY.

I DON'T LIKE YOUR ATTITUDE!
GA-SPWAK
Thank you... Master.

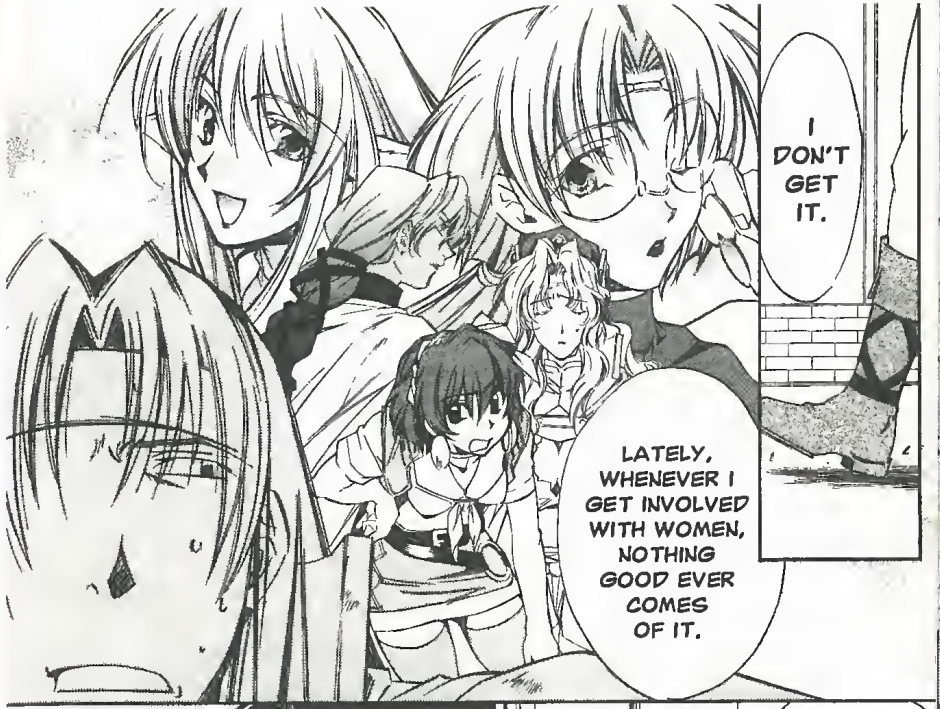
I WILL NOT GET BEAT BY HER, OF ALL PEOPLE!
BUT STILL...
ONE DAY I'M GONNA GET YA!
WATCH OUT, GENIE!
I GUESS I'LL GO TO ONE MORE BAR...
JUST MEANS I NEED SOME MORE LIQUOR.
SHIT. MY WHOLE BODY STILL HURTS.
UNGHH
WINCE
HNGRA!

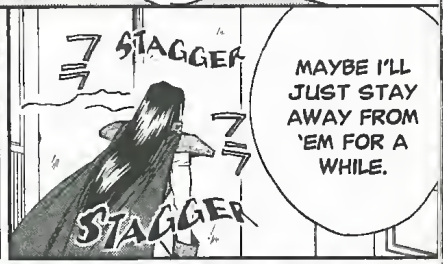
SMACK
SHIT!
THOSE GUYS...
HIC
I KNOW I'M NOT MUCH NOW,
SWIG
BUT I DON'T PLAN TO ALWAYS BE LIKE THIS!
INK
DAMN IT!
SKRNK
ON THE OTHER HAND, ALL I AM IS A BAR BRAWLER.
IT DOESN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE. SHE'S A REAL WARRIOR.
GENIE... GUY OR GIRL,

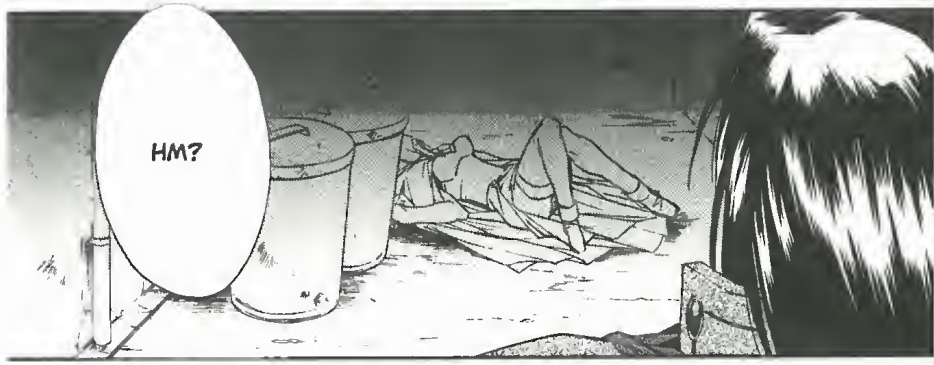
GREAT. THE SECOND I SAY IT, THIS HAPPENS! THE HELL?!

I'VE GOT A REAL BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
DROOL
NO, DON'T DO IT!

HMM. ON SECOND THOUGHT ...
HA
GASP


I DON'T GET IT.
LATELY, WHENEVER I GET INVOLVED WITH WOMEN, NOTHING GOOD EVER COMES OF IT.


STAGGER
STAGGER
MAYBE I'LL JUST STAY AWAY FROM 'EM FOR A WHILE.


HM?

HMM.
NO MAKEUP... AND SHE'S NOT DRESSED LIKE A TRAMP.
SO WHY WAS SHE PASSED OUT IN AN ALLEY IN THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT?
ゴホ COUGH
HNMM.
THAT COLLAR LOOKS KINDA TIGHT.
CREAK
I'LL LOOSEN IT UP A BIT.
RA-THWMP

ALL RIGHT, THEN!
I DIDN'T SEE NOTHIN'! NOPE, NOTHING HERE!
RUSTLE
AAH, WHO AM I KIDDING?
コロン ROLL
I GUESS I'LL JUST TAKE HER SOMEPLACE SAFER.
UH...
WELL...
SHE'S... か……
かわいい…… PRETTY CUTE.

IT'S A MISUNDER-STANDING! A MISUNDER-STANDING, I TELL YOU!
WAAAAUGH
EEEEEEK!
I FOUND YOU SPRAWLED OUT IN AN ALLEYWAY! BEING THE CHIVALROUS (LIE) MAN THAT I AM...
I RESCUED YOU!
I COULDN'T JUST LEAVE YOU LYING THERE!
I'M NOT GONNA!
'CUZ MY NEW MOTTO IS, "STAY AWAY FROM BEAUTIFUL WOMEN."
?
GEEZ! I'D ASK WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU THERE, BUT...
GOT IT, NOW?
SIGH
OH.
I SEE...

SHIT, AT THIS RATE I'LL WAKE HER UP.
HUH?
IT WON'T COME LOOSE.
MMM,
LET'S SEE HERE...
AH! GOT IT!
BLINK
WHAT...
ARE YOU DOING?
I... ER, WELL, UH...

EH?
WELL, WHATEVER. I'VE DONE MY JOB, SO SEE YA.
WHIRL
PLEASE, WAIT!
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE...
AN ADVENTURER, WOULD YOU, SIR?
WHAT WAS THAT, YOUNG LADY?
SPARKLE
AHH...
DID YOU ASK IF I WAS AN... "ADVENTURER"?
YOU THINK I LOOK LIKE AN ADVENTURER?
YES...
SHE THINKS I LOOK LIKE AN ADVENTURER?!
YOU MEAN YOU AREN'T?
WELL, OF COURSE I AM!
INDEED, I AM AN ADVENTURER!
AND MY NAME IS...
THINKING OF NAME
.....

SIR LOUIE, YOU LOOK LIKE A MIGHTY ADVENTURER!
"LOUIE THE RUNE SOLDIER..."
I AM IN NEED OF YOUR HELP!
MY NAME IS ANGELA.
LOOK LIKE A MIGHTY ADVENTURER?
TREMBLE
UH, UH...
はぁ
SO, YOU WILL HELP ME THEN?
MY DEAR... COULD YOU PLEASE SAY THAT AGAIN?
SNIFFLE

CLENCH
I GOT IT!!
LOUIE,
THE RUNE SOLDIER!

HEY, YOU JUST LEAVE IT UP TO LOUIE!
TA-DAA!
YES, NO MATTER WHAT THE JOB—BE IT SWEEPING OR CLEANING, FIGHTING OR KILLING...
PLEASE, SIR LOUIE!
AVENGE MY BROTHER! KILL THAT MONSTER!
HUH?
K...K... KILLING?!
KNOCK
KNOCK
GASP
GASP
DAMN...
SPLT

SIR LOUIE,
I WANT YOU...
TO AVENGE MY BROTHER'S DEATH!
AVENGE YOUR BROTHER?
HE WAS MURDERED...
BY A CERTAIN WARRIOR.
THIS WARRIOR IS AS STURDY AS A MOUNTAIN,
AND CAN SMASH BOULDERS
WITH A SINGLE STROKE OF HIS SWORD.
EVEN IF SEVERAL SKILLED SWORDSMEN WERE TO ATTACK HIM AT ONCE, I DOUBT THEY'D BE ABLE TO STOP HIM.
DRIP
I COULDN'T POSSIBLY TAKE ON SUCH AN OPPONENT MYSELF...

HOW DID YOU GET CAUGHT OFF-GUARD?
HUFF
SOMEBODY SAID A NAME...
THAT I HADN'T HEARD IN A LONG TIME.
A NAME...
FROM THE PAST?
YOU MEAN, HIM?
YOU HAVE TO FORGET ABOUT THAT.
IT WASN'T YOUR F-
HOW COULD I POSSIBLY FORGET?!

YES? WHAT CAN I DO FOR-
GENIE!
LONG TIME NO SEE, BHARVE.
K-CHK
I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, BUT...
CLATTER
MY GOD! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
GOT A LITTLE...
HUFF
CARELESS.
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD DO AN OLD MERCENARY FRIEND A FAVOR AND LET ME REST HERE AWHILE?

SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU.
GENIE...
K-THK
YOU JUST REST HERE TONIGHT.
CHIRP
CHIRP
AHHH...
WHAT A MORNING! I FEEL SO REFRESHED!
I THINK I'LL GO INTRODUCE MY "CLIENT" TO THE OTHERS TODAY, SO THEY CAN SEE WHAT AN ADVENTURER I REALLY AM!
AWW, YEAH!
SKIP
スキップ♪
スキップ♪
SKIP

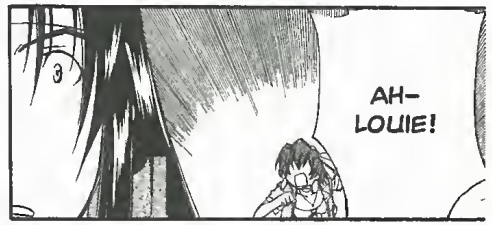
GENIE...
CLENCH
IT'S BECAUSE OF HIM...
THAT WE'RE HERE RIGHT NOW.
HE SAVED OUR LIVES.
I KNOW.

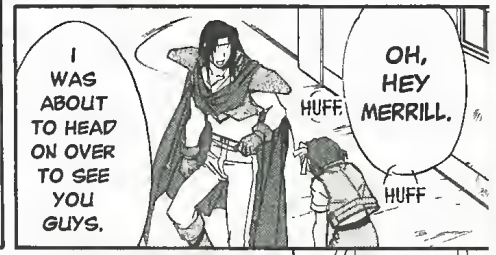
SHE...
SHE KNOWS HEALING SPELLS?
RUMBLE
ゴゴゴゴゴ
NEVER USED ANY ON ME...
MELISSA'S ALREADY HEADING OVER THERE TO USE HER HEALING MAGIC. I JUST HOPE GENIE'LL BE ALRIGHT UNTIL SHE GETS THERE.
WHAT'LL WE DO IF...
SHE'LL PULL THROUGH!

SHE'S NOT GONNA BE DONE IN THAT EASILY!
GENIE'S A REAL WARRIOR!

WHAT?!
はぁ?!
I'VE GOT TERRIBLE NEWS! GENIE'S BEEN...
SHE'S BEEN STABBED!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!

I THINK I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET ANGELA SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE...
LET'S SEE...


AH- LOUIE!


I WAS ABOUT TO HEAD ON OVER TO SEE YOU GUYS.
OH, HEY MERRILL.
HUFF
HUFF

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
WHOA... DON'T TELL ME SHE CAN'T EVEN GET UP.
SHE'S RESTING OVER AT HIS PLACE RIGHT NOW.
SOME FRIEND OF HERS TOLD ME ABOUT IT.

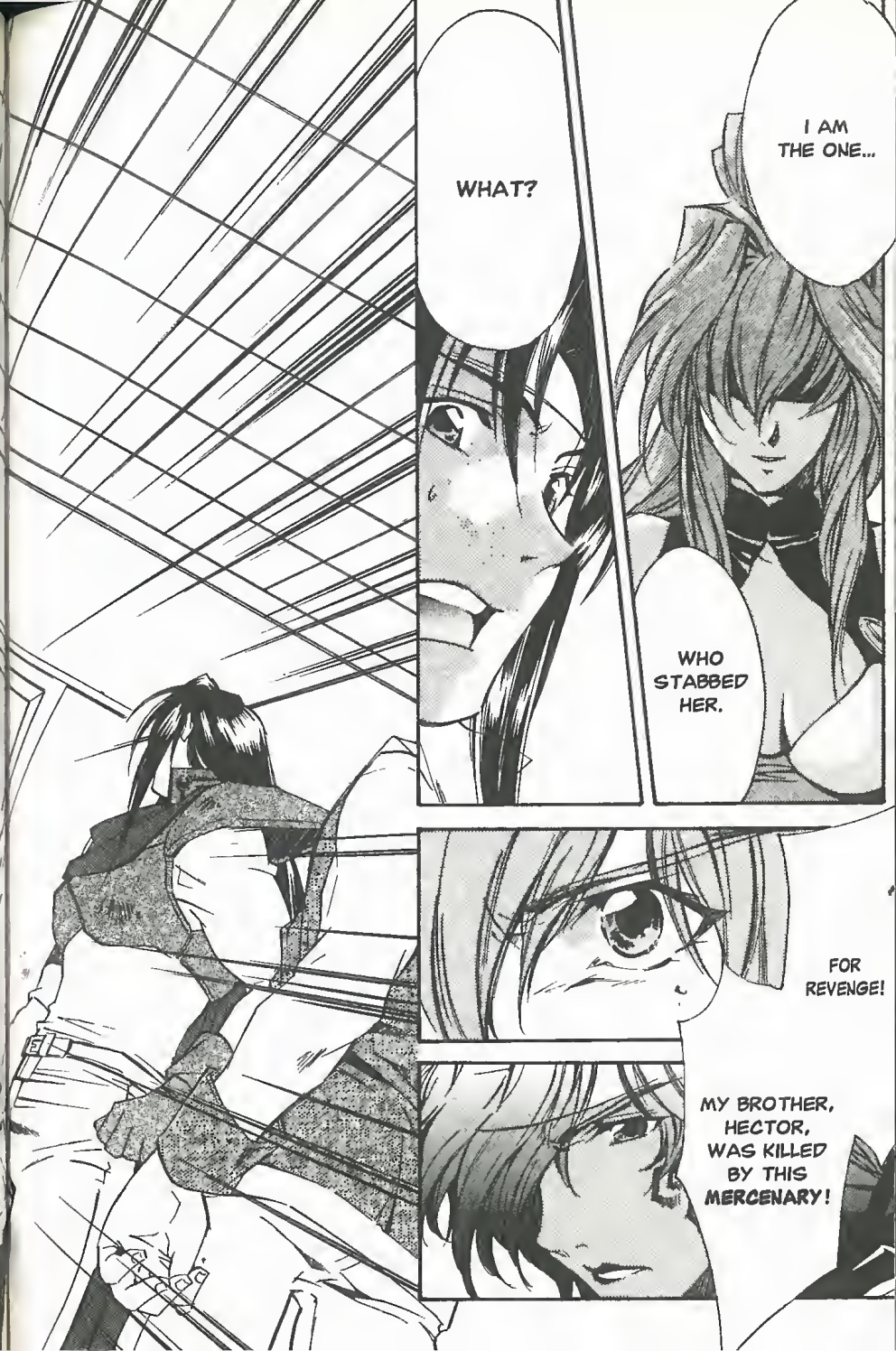
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
MELISSA!
ARE YOU THERE?
OH. OKAY.
WHO IS SHE?
I'LL INTRODUCE HER LATER!
DON'T WORRY.
SHE'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
IF YOU KEEP BANGING LIKE THAT...
YOU'RE LIABLE TO KNOCK THE DOOR DOWN!

I COULD SEE YOU KILLING YOURSELF JUST BY FALLING DOWN AND KNOCKING YOUR HEAD...
BUT THIS IS GENIE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, HUH?
UH... Y...YEAH. I GUESS.
WHY YOU LITTLE...
RIGHT?
I GUESS SO...
OH, HEY ANGELA!
YOU'RE JUST IN TIME.
WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH US?
ANYHOW, WE BETTER GET GOING!
UH, ACTUALLY, I WAS WAITING—
UM, LOUIE?

CLASP
ぽふ
DON'T WORRY.
I'M TOUGHER THAN YOU THINK.
BUT I...
RELAX, MERRILL.
MUST'VE BEEN PRETTY GOOD TO INJURE YOU LIKE THAT.
STILL, WHOEVER IT WAS...
LOUIE,
I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR BRINGING ME TO HER.
SCUFF

GENIE!!
OH GENIE, THANK GOODNESS!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

LOUIE, I WANT YOU TO...
AVENGE MY BROTHER— AND KILL GENIE!
HUH?!


WHAT?
I AM THE ONE...
WHO STABBED HER.
FOR REVENGE!
MY BROTHER, HECTOR, WAS KILLED BY THIS MERCENARY!

ADVENTURE 10
THE REQUEST (Part 2)

GENIE KILLED...

YOUR BROTHER?

WAIT! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!!

BE QUIET, BHARVE!

魔法戦士
LOUIE the RUNE SOLDIER
リウイ
紅炎のバスタード

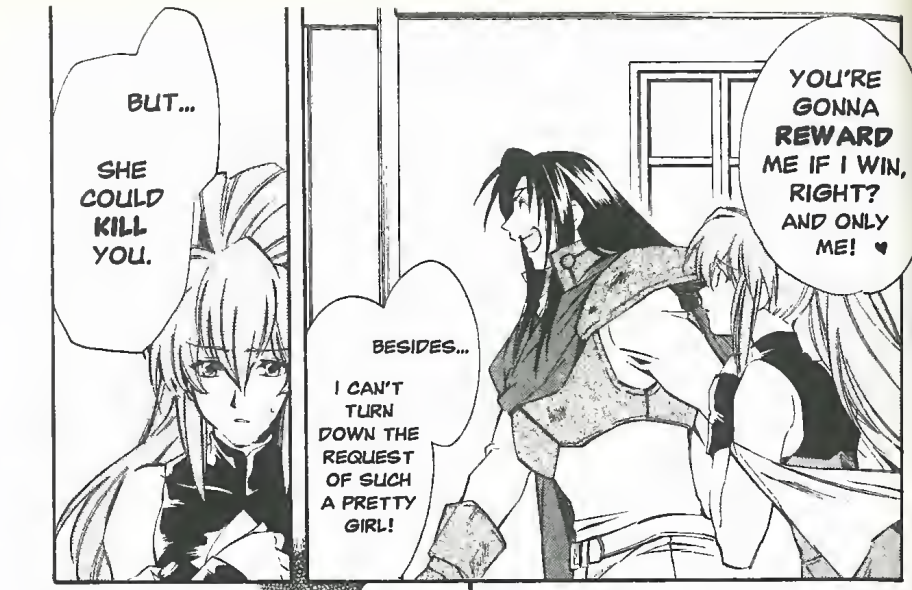
NO! YOU KNOW WHAT THAT SOUNDS LIKE TO ME? AN EXCUSE!
ALL THIS TIME...
YOU LET HER STAB YOU.
DON'T TELL ME...
SHE JUST DOESN'T GET IT.
IT'S STILL NOT LIKE YOU TO GET STABBED BY A KID.
WHATEVER HAPPENED...
NO. I'M GOING TO TELL HER!
YOU MAY THINK... WE JUST STOOD BY AND LET HECTOR DIE. THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THAT.
BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IF ONE OF US HADN'T SACRIFICED HIMSELF IN THAT BATTLE, EVERYONE WOULD HAVE DIED.
HECTOR GAVE HIS OWN LIFE TO SAVE THE REST OF US!
IT CAN'T BE...
I'LL KILL YOU!
AND BECAUSE OF THAT, YOU STABBED GENIE!
SO IT'S ALL YOUR MISUNDER-STANDING, THEN!
WHAT THE HECK?!

FIGHT ME, GENIE!
I WILL AVENGE HER BROTHER!
WELL IF THAT'S THE CASE...
HUH?
AND WHAT IF I DID? WHAT'S IT TO YOU?
THEN I'LL BE GLAD TO TAKE THIS GIRL UP ON HER REQUEST!

ADVENTURE 10
THE REQUEST (Part 2)

I THOUGHT THESE WERE YOUR FRIENDS!
YEAH, WELL...
IS THIS BECAUSE YOU RESENT GENIE?!
LOUIE!
THAT'S IT! I'M OUT!
THIS GUY'S WAY TOO MUCH OF A FRICKIN' IDIOT FOR ME TO BE ADVENTURING WITH!
ARRGH
WILL YOU ALL SHUT UP?!
GOT IT, GENIE?!
SO I'M GONNA FIGHT HER, DAMN IT!!
I DON'T CARE WHAT ANYONE SAYS! I'M DOING IT! I SAID I'LL FIGHT HER,

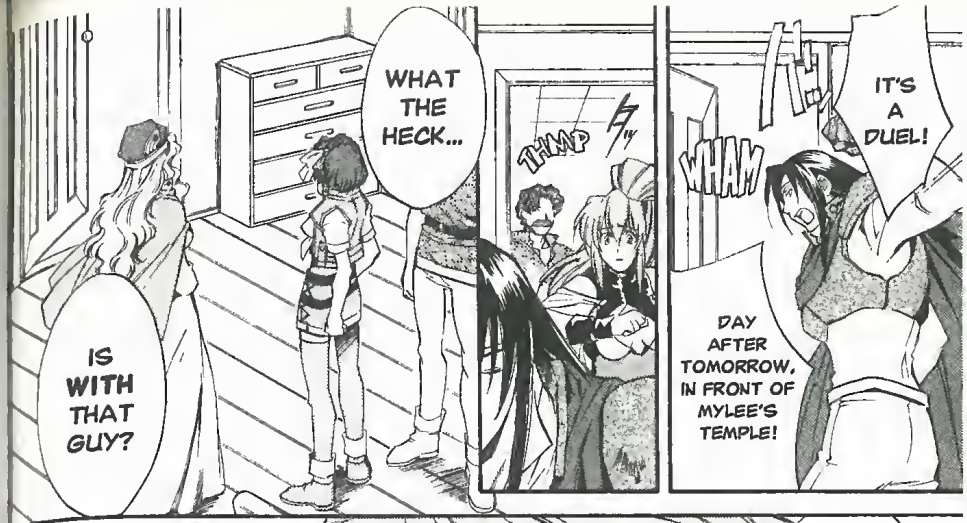
WHAT?
AAH, I CAN'T TAKE IT! THE GUY'S A FREAK! HIS HEAD AIN'T SCREWED ON RIGHT!
FURTHERMORE, WHY WOULD YOU GO THROUGH WITH IT WHEN YOU KNOW IT'S ALL A MISUNDER-STANDING?!
WAIT A MINUTE! YOU AGREED TO THIS?
YUP. IT WAS MY VERY FIRST REQUEST!
WELL, YOU'RE NOT TAKIN' IT!
BWAP


BUT...
SHE COULD KILL YOU.
BESIDES...
I CAN'T TURN DOWN THE REQUEST OF SUCH A PRETTY GIRL!
YOU'RE GONNA REWARD ME IF I WIN, RIGHT? AND ONLY ME! ♥

BESIDES, I HAVE GOT THE URGE...
TO KNOCK HER BLOCK OFF!

JUST LEAVE SOME FLOWERS ON MY GRAVE, THEN.
YEAH, I GUESS SO.

DON'T SAY THAT!
LOOK, JUST CHEER ME ON, OKAY?


WHAT THE HECK...
THMP
IS WITH THAT GUY?
WHAM
IT'S A DUEL!
DAY AFTER TOMORROW, IN FRONT OF MYLEE'S TEMPLE!

I ACCEPT HIS LITTLE CHALLENGE.
WHATEVER.

HEY, IT WAS MY FIRST REQUEST.
WHY...
UM, LOUIE?

SOUNDS LIKE FUN!
OH, BARE-HANDED, EH?
THROW DOWN YOUR SWORD!
BWSH
KA-THNK
THMP
I THOUGHT GENIE WAS WELL-BUILT...
BUT LOOKING AT THEM SIDE-BY-SIDE,
SHE'S GOT NOTHING ON THAT GUY.

GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT.
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT'VE RUN OFF ON ME.
IS THAT ALL YOU CAN SAY?
I AM SO UNSURE ABOUT THIS. SO VERY UNSURE. SO VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY...
(AD INFINITUM)
IT'S NOT LIKE HE KNOWS ANYTHING, REALLY...
DOES HE EVEN KNOW WHAT HE'S GETTING INTO?
LOUIE... GOOD LUCK.
HE'S SUCH A FRICKIN' IDIOT!

YEEARGH!
SMACK
GRRR
HRGH
SMACK

SHE'S ALWAYS HATED THAT SHE WAS A WOMAN.
DON'T LET GENIE HEAR YOU SAY THAT.
I KNOW.
I THINK SHE BELIEVES HECTOR TRIED TO **PROTECT** HER BECAUSE SHE'S A WOMAN.
HERE IT COMES!!
LET'S GO, GENIE.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA BEAT ME THIS TIME!

OOMPH.
WHAM!!
THWOMP
HEY, THAT'S SNEAKY.

SHUDDER
STRAIN
SHP
WHEN DID HE GET SO STRONG?
DAMN...
FLIP
WAUGH!!
WHA-?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... I'M BEING PUSHED BACK!

HIGH PRIESTESS JENNY!
JUST WATCH, MELISSA.
YOU CAN STILL SEE FIRE IN THE HERO'S EYES.
BUT GENIE, ON THE OTHER HAND...
POUND
THWOMP
YOU MEAN, GENIE IS...
LOSING IT?
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S LOSING HER COMPOSURE.

THWAP
SMACK
WHACK
OW. DAMN...
HMPH.
...
GENIE'S GOT HIM BEAT. JUST WHAT I EXPECTED.
HUH?
I WOULDN'T BE SO SURE.

IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?!
TOUGH TALK FROM AN AMATEUR!
WHOMP!

COME ON, RUNE SOLDIER!
DON'T GIVE UP!!
SMACK
WHAT'S THE MATTER, GENIE?

WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?!
IF SOMEBODY'S GOING TO BE SACRIFICED IN BATTLE, IT SHOULD BE THE STRONGEST OF THE GROUP!
IT SHOULD'VE BEEN ME!
YOU,
YOU LET HER STAB YOU 'CUZ SHE'S A GIRL!
OR MAYBE IT'S 'CUZ YOU THOUGHT YOU DESERVED TO DIE! WHATEVER, IT'S ALL A LOAD OF CRAP!
YOU SHUT UP!!
THAT'S A LIE!
THAT WOMAN LET MY BROTHER-

WHEN HIS LITTLE SISTER ATTACKED YOU WITH HER DAGGER...
YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO DODGE IT!!
IT'S EATING YOU UP INSIDE, ISN'T IT?
HECTOR DIED INSTEAD OF YOU, SO...

SO, SOMEONE WHO GOT BEATEN BY A KID...
IS GONNA GET THE BETTER OF ME?! IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?!
BUT DON'T WORRY--I DON'T PLAN ON LOSING TO A MAN LIKE YOU!
IT JUST HAPPENED, ALRIGHT?

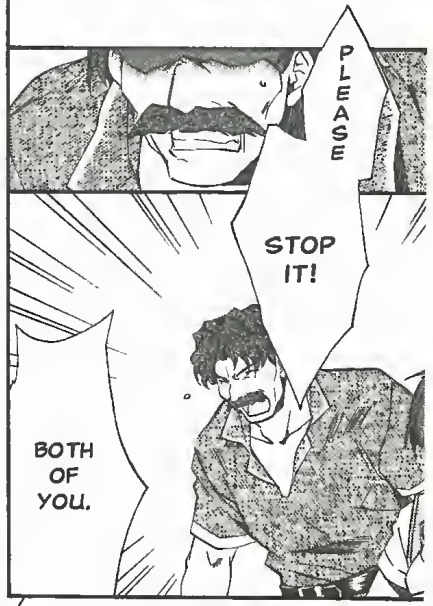
NO...

PROMISE NOT TO SAY ANYTHING.
HE MADE ME...

I CAN'T...
SLUMP
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

WHA...
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

AND YOU, TOO, ANGELA.
HECTOR WOULDN'T HAVE WANTED ANY OF THIS!


PLEASE STOP IT!
BOTH OF YOU.

W... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HE WAS IN LOVE WITH YOU,
GENIE!
HECTOR WAS...

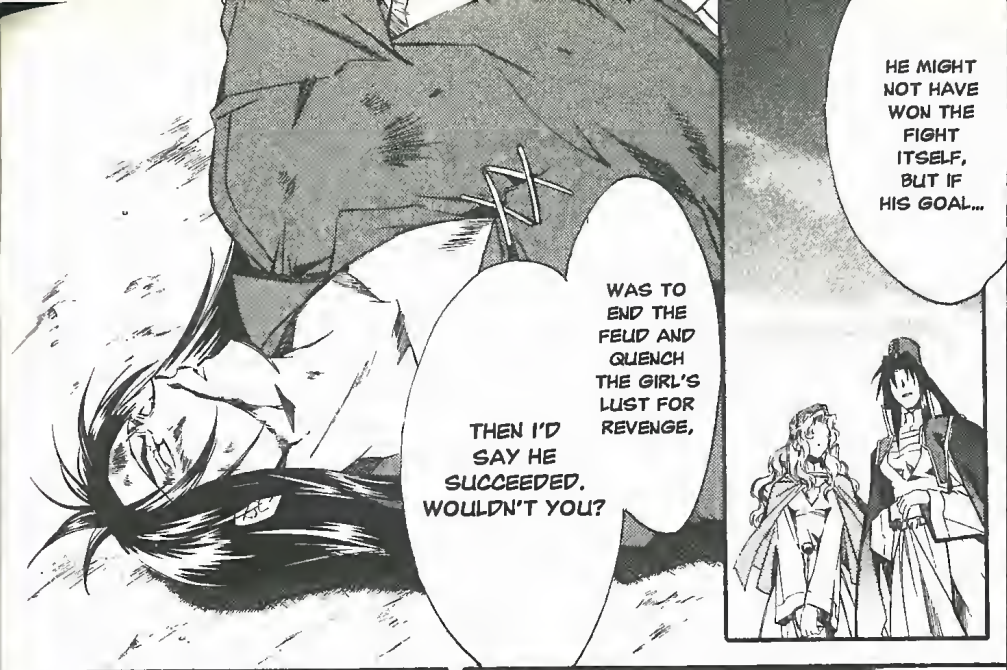
I'M NOT GONNA LET ANYONE BEAT ME!
BECOMING THE STRONGEST WARRIOR'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH BEING A WOMAN OR A MAN!
THE ONLY THING YOU'RE OUT TO PROVE
IS THAT YOU'RE BETTER THAN ANY MAN.
HUFF
I'M DISAPPOINTED.

SURELY, LOVE WHICH BLOOMS ON THE BATTLEFIELD IS PURE AND TRUE.
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT?
I COULDN'T CARE LESS WHAT YOU ARE.
OH, HECTOR...
HEH
NO BONES ABOUT IT, YOU'RE A WOMAN.

ENOUGH OF YOUR RAMBLING...
AMATEUR.
OOOH, HE SURE GOT IT THAT TIME.
THAT'S HER "KILLER PUNCH."
IT LOOKS LIKE HE WON TO ME.
THE HERO...
WHAT?
HAS LOST, HASN'T HE?

KA-THWMP
CRACK!

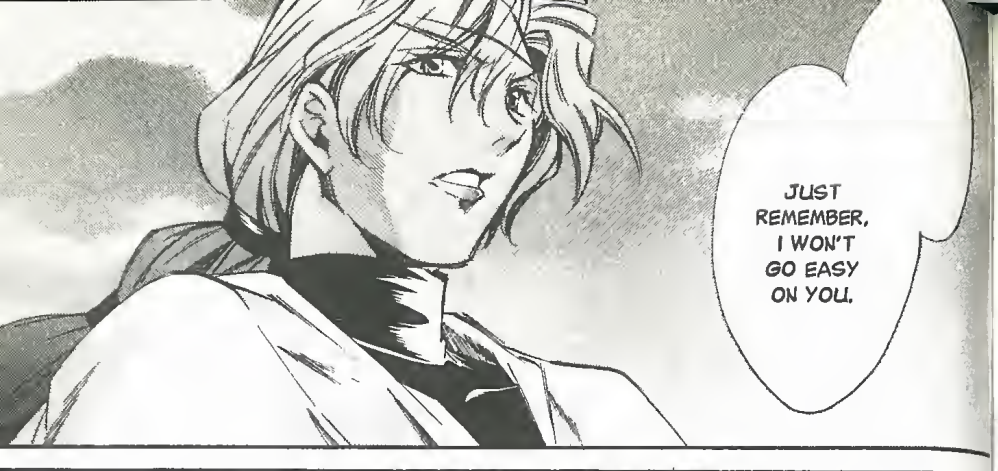
AND CAST YOUR HEALING SPELL ON HIM...
GO ON, NOW. IF YOU DON'T HURRY...
...?
そりゃヘンだ
OH, NO!
HE'LL SURELY DIE.
ITO
PAT


HE MIGHT NOT HAVE WON THE FIGHT ITSELF, BUT IF HIS GOAL...
WAS TO END THE FEUD AND QUENCH THE GIRL'S LUST FOR REVENGE,
THEN I'D SAY HE SUCCEEDED. WOULDN'T YOU?

I ONCE ASKED EXACTLY THE SAME THING ABOUT A CERTAIN MAN I KNEW.

WELL DONE, LITTLE LOUIE...

HE CAN BECOME A TRUE WARRIOR?
DO YOU THINK...
WELL, I GUESS...


JUST REMEMBER, I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU.

HEH

HEY, I WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY.

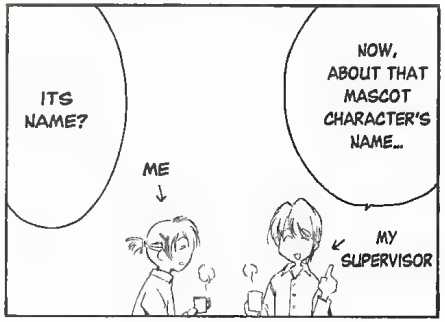
IS HE OKAY?
HNGH...
GASP
LOUIE

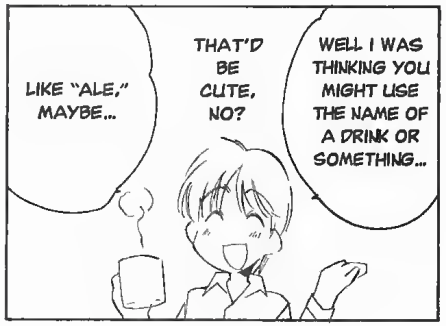
HEY, GENIE...

SPARE ME THE TOUGH TALK. GUESS I'LL HAVE TO KILL HIM, HUH?
HEH
I WASN'T GOIN' OUT LIKE THAT.

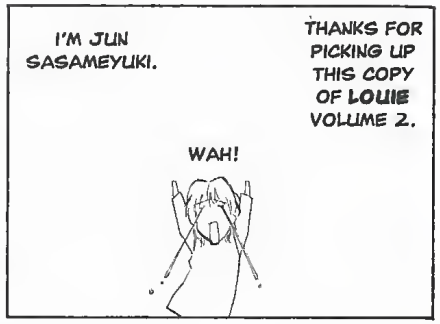
FINE.
WE'LL SEE IF YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES.
I SWEAR I'M GONNA BEAT YOU SOMEDAY.

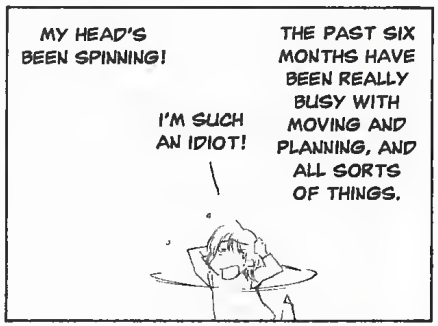
...Continued from Volume 1

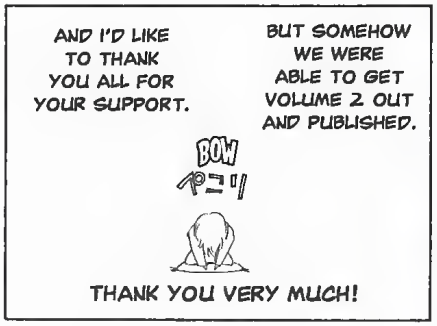


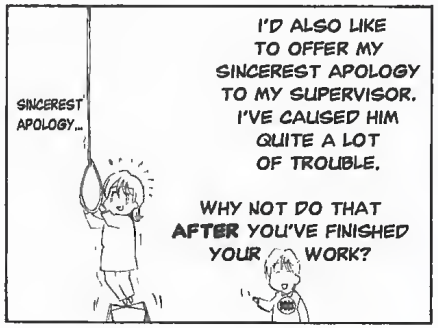



Greetings from the Illustrator





MY HEAD'S BEEN SPINNING!
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
THE PAST SIX MONTHS HAVE BEEN REALLY BUSY WITH MOVING AND PLANNING, AND ALL SORTS OF THINGS.


AND I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
BUT SOMEHOW WE WERE ABLE TO GET VOLUME 2 OUT AND PUBLISHED.
BOW
ペコリ
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!


SINCEREST APOLOGY...
I'D ALSO LIKE TO OFFER MY SINCEREST APOLOGY TO MY SUPERVISOR. I'VE CAUSED HIM QUITE A LOT OF TROUBLE.
WHY NOT DO THAT AFTER YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR WORK?

# LOUIE the RUNE SOLDIER VOL. 2

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KEI KIMIYA SAMA
DON SAMA

YOSHIDA SAMA

……AND YOU!

# LETTER FROM THE ADV MANGA TRANSLATION STAFF

Dear Reader,

On behalf of the ADV Manga translation team, thank you for purchasing an ADV book. We are enthusiastic and committed to our work, and strive to carry our enthusiasm over into the book you hold in your hands.

Our goal is to retain the true spirit of the original Japanese book. While great care has been taken to render a true and accurate translation, some cultural or readability issues may require a line to be adapted for greater accessibility to our readers. At times, manga titles that include culturally-specific concepts will feature a "Translation Notes" section, which explains noteworthy references to the original text.

We hope our commitment to a faithful translation is evident in every ADV book you purchase.

Sincerely,

**Javier Lopez**
Lead Translator

**Eiko McGregor**

**Kay Bertrand**

**Brendan Frayne**

**Amy Forsyth**

# TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

## Louie the Rune Soldier vol.2

**Pg.35** Fore!

Louie is testing out his new mage staff. In the Japanese text, he shouts *suburi*, which means a "test swing." It can be a test or practice swing in either kendo or in golf. Of course, these two forms of *suburi* are COMPLETELY different. Since golf will obviously be the more familiar sport to our readers, we chose to interpret it as "fore." Golfers and kendo instructors alike would no doubt cringe at Louie's lack of form. It would seem Louie is only skilled in bludgeoning.

**Pg.66** If it's a fight, I'm THERE! Even if I gotta buy TICKETS!

In English, one might "take someone up on" or "accept" a challenge or fight, but in Japanese the phrase is literally "buy a fight." Conversely, the Japanese would say "sell a fight" instead of "pick a fight." In this scene, Louie's shouts, "If anyone's selling a fight, I'll buy it – even if it's through a mail order catalog!" In carrying the line over to English, we tried to preserve the whole idea of being so enamored of fighting as to spend money to experience a good brawl.

**Pg.163** Draught

In Japanese, this was *nama-chu*, which actually refers to a medium (*chu*) sized mug of draught (*nama*) beer. Cousin to the *nama-chu* is the *nama-dai*, a monster mug of beer that usually goes for 700 yen (around $6.40 US).

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# ESCAPING ELVISH PRISONS, DUELING ARROGANT KNIGHTS, AVENGING MURDERS...

Louie's just getting started in his new profession, but he's beginning to realize that life as an adventurer is a lot more time consuming than he anticipated! With the aid of his trusty companions, a handful of enchanted tools, and a pair of rock-solid fists, the street fighter-gone-hero continues his mad-cap adventures. But when Louie is challenged to a duel by Conrad, official knight of Mylee (and Melissa's fiancée), the question arises–is it finally time to learn swordplay too? Sword or fist, city or forest, Louie tries his best to get a handle on the whole hero thing–and busts a few heads along the way!

## LOUIE the RUNE SOLDIER

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